

Section 1619b: SSI and Medicaid Coverage

2014 Fact Sheet on Work Incentives

Section 1619(b) allows individuals who are eligible for SSI to continue to be eligible for Medicaid coverage when their earnings are too high to continue to receive SSI. This work incentive applies to individuals whose earnings are below New Hampshire's threshold (currently \$38,570 in 2017).

How It Helps You:

If you are eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) based on a disability, have Medicaid for your health insurance, and are employed, 1619(b) allows you to work and keep your Medicaid coverage without a Medicaid spend-down. You can continue to be eligible for Medicaid coverage until your gross annual income reaches a certain amount (**For New Hampshire, this amount is \$38,570 in 2017**); and you continue to meet all of the other SSI eligibility requirements, like have less than \$2,000 in resources as a single person or \$3000 as a couple.

How It Works:

While you are earning income from work and need your Medicaid coverage **plus** you meet all other requirements for SSI (such as having less than \$2,000 in resources), you are eligible for 1619(b) Medicaid protection.

You should report your earnings to the Social Security Administration (SSA) monthly. When your SSI cash payments stop due to reaching your Break Even Point (the point when your earnings cause your SSI check to go to zero), the local SSA office must determine your eligibility for 1619(b). The local SSA office will send you a notice of the decision for this Medicaid protection. This information will eventually be sent electronically to the local office of the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS). However, you should contact your Community Work Incentives Coordinator for a form to communicate a 1619(b) determination to DHHS more quickly. You also need to report your earnings to your Family Services Specialist at DHHS.

With 1619(b) you may remain eligible for SSI, even though your cash benefit has stopped. If you begin earning less than your Break Even Point or you stop working, your SSI cash benefit will start again. It is very important to always report your earnings to SSA each month to have your SSI cash benefit adjusted accurately.

For more information and support on your work incentives, you may contact the GSIL Financial Planning for Employment (FPE) program at 1-877-809-7028.