



What a Good Idea!...

Use SSI to Get Ready for your Future!

1. **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** helps to pay for your food, clothing and shelter needs. It also helps you maintain your medical benefits.
2. **Apply or reapply for SSI when you become an adult** (around age 18).
3. **Your eligibility is re-evaluated on a regular basis** based on your income and resources.
4. **Some ways SSI can get you one step closer to working:**
 - It can help you get money every month for your food, clothing and shelter needs.
 - Less than half of the money you earn from work is counted against your SSI check.
 - When you work, you can keep your Healthcare and Family Services' healthcare coverage.
 - Using a **Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS)** will allow you to set aside money to help you achieve an occupational goal and become independent.
 - You can deduct your work-related expenses from your earnings.
5. **Work incentives** are a great way to get people working. Wouldn't it be nice to make more money than what comes from Social Security every month?
6. **You can learn more** online at the *SSI Work Site*, <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/work/index.html>, or by calling toll-free **1-800-772-1213**.
7. **Applying for SSI involves many steps.** If you are interested, you can get more information by calling toll-free **1-800-772-1213**.
8. If you are already getting SSI and want to learn more about work incentives, call your **Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Program**.
 - Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (City of Chicago): **1-312-746-5743**.
 - Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Mental Health (South Suburbs and Other Parts of Illinois): **1-866-390-6771**.
 - Illinois Assistive Technology Program (North and West Suburbs and Other Parts of Illinois): **1-800-852-5110**.
9. **If you have already applied for benefits in the past and were denied, don't give up!** In fact, most people are initially denied when they apply on their own. You can still reapply or appeal the denial with the help of a qualified social security disability advocate or attorney. You can contact Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security, Equip for Equality, Inc. at 1-800-537-2632 (Voice)/ 1-800-610-2779 (TTY).

We're here to help. To learn more about UIC-Specialized Care for Children's programs and services, check out our website at:

dsccl.uic.edu or like us on  facebook.com/dsccl.uic.edu