



**PESS is a Social Security provision which allows individuals to exclude certain property from resources that are necessary for their means of self-support.**

## **Property Essential to Self Support (PESS)**

### **2010 Fact Sheet on Work Incentives**

#### How It Helps You:

If you are receiving SSI benefits and:

- Own properties or equipment that you use in your job,
- Own property that provides income,
- Own property that you use to provide goods to feed your household,

Tell your SSA representative how this helps you earn money.

#### How It Works:

Social Security will not count some of the following property:

- the full value of tools or equipment used for trade or business, for example, (carpenter tools, mechanic tools, computers, wheelchairs, or inventory used for a trade or business),
- certain amounts of the value of non-business properties that are used to produce goods, (i.e., land used to produce vegetables or livestock, solely for the consumption by the individual's own household),
- some amounts of non-business income-producing properties, provided that the property yields a profit.

To explore if PESS is applicable to you, contact your local Social Security Administration Claims Representative.

**For more information and support on your work incentives, contact:**

**INDIANA WORKS  
Work Incentives  
Planning and Assistance**

**In Northern and  
Central Indiana:  
1-866-646-8161 (toll free)**

**In Southern Indiana:  
1-800-206-6610 (toll free)**

The information contained in this fact sheet has been reviewed by the Social Security Administration, Office of Employment Support Programs for Accuracy. However, the viewpoints of this fact sheet do not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the Social Security Administration.