



# Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS)

## 2011 Fact Sheet on Work Incentives

**A Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS) is a work incentive Social Security developed to help SSI recipients work. It allows people with disabilities or blindness to set aside resources and/or various kinds of income for a specified period of time to use toward an occupational work goal or start a business.**

**A PASS can help an individual to save income and/or resources to use to achieve a work goal and become self-sufficient.**

**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)**

### How It Helps You:

A PASS can be developed to cover the costs of:

- Obtaining an education,
- Receiving vocational training,
- Starting a business,
- Getting support services which may help you work, and
- Eventually depend less on SSI.

Examples of things allowed in a PASS are: vocational evaluation, some transportation-related expenses, job-related equipment and uniforms, things needed to purchase a business, or other equipment or services to support work activities.

### How It Works:

A special form (SSA 545) is available at the Social Security Office to develop a PASS. Community Work Incentives Coordinator or a Benefits Information Network Liaison may be available to support you in writing the PASS as well as a Work Incentive Liaison at the Social Security Office. In considering what items or services will qualify for a PASS, the individual applying for the PASS must:

- Have a feasible work goal,
- Have a specific savings/spending plan for work-related items or services and how it is related to employment,
- Have a clearly identifiable accounting of the funds set aside in the PASS,
- Follow the PASS plan as agreed with the Social Security Administration.

Once you have written the PASS, a representative in the Social Security Office will ensure it has been completed properly, or request additional information. When the PASS is completed, it will be sent to a regional PASS Specialist in the Social Security Administration who will review the PASS and make a final decision on the plan.

Several special rules and requirements apply to PASS Plans. A Community Work Incentives Coordinator or a Benefits Information Network Liaison can provide information on how to meet these requirements, and help you monitor your progress toward your work goal.

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.