



Student Services

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DOR Student Services Mission and Goal

- DOR is now providing pre-employment transition services (Pre-ETS) to students with disabilities statewide.
- DOR Student Services will help students prepare for workplace success by exploring options, getting ready to work, & creating careers.

Who Can Participate?

- Students with a Disability that are not younger than 16 or older than 21 years, and are participating in either secondary or postsecondary education.
- **Students must have at least one of the following:**
 - 504 Plan
 - IEP
 - Disability.



DOR Student Services (Pre-ETS)

- ❖ **Job Exploration Counseling**
- ❖ **Work Based Learning**
- ❖ **Post-Secondary Education Counseling**
- ❖ **Self-Advocacy Skills**
- ❖ **Workplace Readiness Training**



Job Exploration Counseling

Job exploration counseling allows students to learn about the different kinds of jobs and which ones are best for their strengths and interest.

Students will learn about:

- Jobs and the labor market.
- Career pathways in their local area.
- In-demand jobs
- Understand what they need to get the career they want.



Work-Based Learning Experiences

Work-based learning experiences offer a variety of ways for students to connect with local professionals and get real-world work experience.

- Opportunities for Internships and Apprenticeships
- Volunteer opportunities.
- DOR Paid Student Work Experience
 - Foundation of California Community Colleges (FCCC)
 - Students can work up to 100 hours per work experience.
 - Multiple paid work experiences may be authorized allowing student to gain transferable skills.

Postsecondary Education Counseling

Postsecondary counseling helps students learn about different educational programs and resources to support their educational success.

- Provide information about college application and admissions processes.
- Discuss career options
- Assist student and family with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Self-Advocacy Skills

Self-advocacy training helps students build leadership skills, gain confidence in professional environments, and understand what they need to succeed in a workplace.

- Learn about rights and responsibilities.
- Learn how to request accommodations at school or work
- Participating in youth leadership activities offered in educational or community settings.
- Self-advocacy skills for identifying accommodations and services in an educational program.

Workplace Readiness Training

Workplace readiness training helps students prepare for employment by learning good work habits, strengthening interpersonal skills, and developing independent living skills.

- Develop job-seeking skills workshops
- Building an effective resume & cover letter
- Interview guidance
- Appropriate job seeking grooming and clothing
- Soft skills workshop
- Meet with a benefits planner (DOR Work Incentives Planner)

Blind Field Services

- Blind Field Services is part of Specialized Services that works with adults and students, ages 16-21, who are blind or visually impaired.
- Department of Rehabilitation helps students transition from high school, prepare for college and/or employment.

Work Incentives Planning (WIP) Services

- The DOR Work Incentives Planners (WIPs) can provide DOR Student WIP Services which may include the following information and services:
- Benefits verification and management
- How to use work incentives for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Title II (Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)/Childhood Disability Benefits (CDB) disability benefits
- Wage reporting tools and resources
- Benefits Summary and Plan

Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE)

Under age 22 and regularly attending school

- SSA needs proof of school attendance
 - High school-at least 12 hours per week
 - College-at least 8 hours per week
- SSA will exclude up to \$2,040 of earnings per month (2022)
- Maximum yearly exclusion: \$8,230 (2022)
- Allows for students to do work experience and not have it affect their cash benefits.

SSI Work Incentives

SEIE

SSA will exclude the first \$2,040 you earn each month without changing your SSI check!

SEIE Example

\$350.00 <u>-\$350.00</u>	Gross Earned Income SEIE
\$0	Total Countable Earned Income
\$836.15	Maximum SSI Amount
<u>-0</u>	Total Countable Earned Income
=\$836.15	Adjusted SSI Check

SSI Only

\$836.15

SSI & Earnings with SEIE

\$1,186.15

Age 18 Redetermination

- Within 12 months of turning 18
- Adults and children have different definitions of disability
- Approximately 1/3 are eligible to continue receiving benefits as an adult
- There is an appeals process if denied

Section 301

- If Social Security Administration finds that you are no longer disabled due to medical improvement or if you are age 18 and they find that your eligibility ends because you do not meet the adult requirements for disability, your benefits may continue if you are:
 - Currently working with a Vocation Rehabilitation agency
 - Utilizing the Ticket to Work program and have an assigned Ticket
 - Have an Individualized Education Program (IEP)-only those ages 18-21

CalABLE

- Savings account for people with disabilities
- Must have been disabled before turning 26
- Annual contribution limit of \$15,000
- Savings up to \$100,000 without affecting SSI or Medi-Cal
- Not taxed
- Anyone can contribute money to this account

<https://calable.ca.gov>

DOR Student Services Request Process

- Complete the DR 203 DOR Student Services Request and the DR 260 Consent to Obtain & Release Information forms.
- Submit DR 203 and DR 260 forms to the DOR, including supporting documentation, as appropriate.
- DOR Counselor will create Case
- Have an informed choice discussion with the student. Review the DR 205A DOR Student Services Options form.
- Develop and complete the DR 205 DOR Student Services Agreement form.
- Provide and arrange for DOR Student Services

Work Incentives

SSI

- General and Earned Income Exclusions
- Impairment Related Work Expenses
- Blind Work Expenses
- Student Earned Income Exclusion
- And more!

SSDI

- Trial Work Period
- Extended Period of Eligibility
- Impairment Related Work Expenses
- Subsidies
- And more!

SSI Work Incentives

- Maria is receiving SSI. She just started working part-time as a teacher's aid while she is finishing school.
- She expects to earn \$1,285 per month.

What will happen to Maria's SSI check??

SSI Work Incentives

\$1,285	Gross Earned Income
-20	General Income Exclusion
<u>-65</u>	Earned Income Exclusion
\$1,200 / 2	Divided by 2
\$600	Countable Earned Income

SSI Work Incentives

\$943.72

Maximum SSI Rate

- 600

Countable Earned Income

\$343.72

Adjusted SSI Check

SSI Work Incentives

\$1,285

Gross Earned Income

+ 343.72

Adjusted SSI Check

\$1,628.72

Total Income

SSI Work Incentives

SSI Only	SSI and Earnings
\$943.72	\$1,628.72

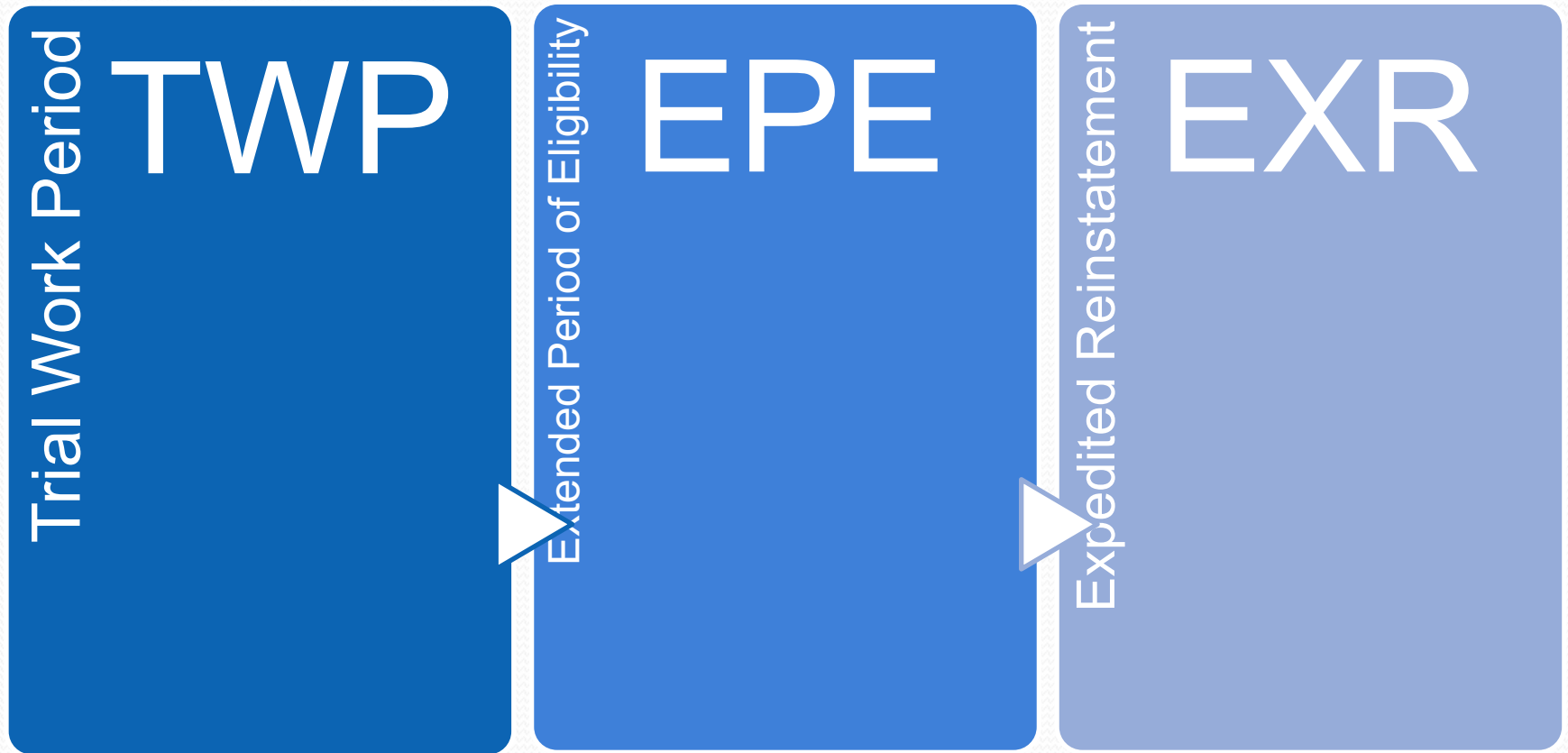


Which would you prefer?

SSI Work Incentives

- Impairment Related Work Expenses
- Blind Work Expenses
- Student Earned Income Exclusion
- Plan to Achieve Self-Support

SSDI Work Incentives



SSDI Work Incentives

Trial Work Period (TWP)

- Test your ability to work!
- Each month your earnings are above a certain level you will use a TWP month.
- You have 9 TWP months to use within a rolling 5-year time period

Receive your full SSDI check regardless of how high your earnings are!

SSDI Work Incentives

- Charlie is receiving \$950 in SSDI and has worked off and on over the last several years testing his ability to work.
- He now has a steady part-time job that he enjoys as a paralegal which may turn into a full-time position.

Charlie loves working...but he's worried he may lose his SSDI checks!

SSDI Work Incentives

Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE)

- 36 consecutive months where eligibility continues
- Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)
 - When your earnings are above SGA, no check
 - When your earnings are below SGA, check

SSDI Work Incentives

- Impairment Related Work Expenses
- Averaging
- Subsidies and Special Conditions
- Unsuccessful Work Attempts



Any Questions?



Thank You!

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