

For more information on the  
Benefits Planning Program, contact:

DRS/Benefits Planning Program at:

**217-558-6326**

[DHS.DRSBenefitsPlanning@illinois.gov](mailto:DHS.DRSBenefitsPlanning@illinois.gov)

**You may also write:**

**Illinois Department of Human Services  
Division of Rehabilitation Services  
Benefits Planning Program  
100 South Grand Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19429  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9429**



Laura didn't have any work experience and struggled on SSI benefits. After working with the Benefits Planning Program, Laura explained, "Having the benefits analysis helped me feel secure in making the decision to go to work and be where I am at today."

**Laura W.**  
Office Support Personnel

**For more information:  
Call or visit your local Illinois Department  
of Human Services office**

If you have questions about any Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) program, call or visit your local IDHS office and we will answer your questions. If you do not know where your local IDHS office is or if you are unable to go there, you may call the automated helpline 24 hours a day at:

**1-800-843-6154**

711 Relay Service

You may speak to a representative between:

**8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Monday - Friday** (except state holidays)

You may also submit your questions  
in writing to:

**Illinois Department of Human Services  
Office of Customer and Support Services  
100 South Grand Avenue East, 2nd floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62762**

Visit our website at:

**[www.dhs.state.il.us](http://www.dhs.state.il.us)**



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State of Illinois  
Department of Human Services

# Benefits Planning Program

*Helping you understand  
how your benefits will be  
affected by working*



# Benefits Planning Program

## What is the Benefits Planning Program?

We are a state funded program created to help individuals receiving Social Security disability benefits (SSI/SSDI) make informed choices about going to work.

If you are interested in getting a job, we will help you understand how working will affect your benefits.

We will explain Social Security work incentives in addition to state benefits, such as Medicaid, housing and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Our Benefits Planning Program will give you the information you need to make the best choice about your future.



## Who is eligible?

Anyone who gets SSI/SSDI and wants to work is eligible to get free benefits planning services. This includes those that are considering going back to work and those who are working.

## We can:

- Explain how ALL of your benefits will be affected if you go to work. Some of these benefits include SSI/SSDI, subsidized housing, SNAP, Medicaid and Medicare;
- Give you documents that show how earnings from your job will change your benefits;
- Tell you about other community services that can help you;
- Be available to answer any questions you have about your benefits, even after you go to work;
- Provide ongoing benefits management if you get a raise or change jobs; and
- Make a referral to help you resolve any legal barriers related to employment, such as employer accommodations that will help you do your job.

Through a sign language interpreter and infectious smile, Will explains that with the assistance of the Benefits Planning Program and many people working together, he was able to persevere and land a full time job with benefits!

**Will B.** Custodian



As an administrative assistant in a law office, Elizabeth has overcome obstacles related to her disability (Fibromyalgia) and obtained health benefits with the assistance of the Benefits Planning Program and a benefits analysis.

**Elizabeth E.**  
Administrative Assistant

