

Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS)

Work Incentives Connection Fact Sheet #22

January 2020

Do you receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)?
Do you hope to earn enough money to give up your benefits from Social Security?
Do you have a specific job or vocational goal in mind?

If you answered yes to each of those 3 questions, a **Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS)** may help you reach your vocational goal. Using a PASS allows you to save money from income such as wages or SSDI in order to pay for these special expenses. While saving money through the PASS program you could be eligible for some, or more, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to use for your daily living expenses. The maximum SSI payment in 2020 for a single person is \$783.

People often use PASS to pay for expenses such as schooling, vehicles, and workplace accommodations. PASS can also be used to pay daycare costs, buy interview clothing, and pay new business start-up costs as long as these expenses are related to your work goal.

To talk with someone about your plans for PASS call your Social Security PASS Cadre member. For most of Minnesota except for those listed below in northwestern Minnesota:

Joani Werner

1-866-667-6032 extension 34061

Beneficiaries who are service by the Fergus Falls, Moorhead, East Grand Forks or Crookston SSA offices:

Thomas Sprunt

1-866-851-5275 extension 16310

You will need to complete an application for a PASS. The application is available through from the PASS Cadre.

When Preparing your PASS Application

- You must list a specific job goal. For example, Dental hygienist or Child care provider. Do not list “go to school” or “get a car” as your work goal.
- If you want to go to school, you must show a letter of acceptance from the school and apply for free financial aid such as grants and scholarships.
- If you want to start a business, you must have a written business plan.
- If you are working with State Vocational Rehabilitation, you must attach a copy of your Individual Employment Plan.

When you have completed the PASS application, contact the Cadre member to find out where you should send your application.

When using a Plan for Achieving Self-Support

- You will have an SSI worker at your local Social Security office. You must report all earnings to that individual. You will also work closely with the PASS Cadre member.
- If you are receiving SSDI, you must continue to report your earnings to your SSDI worker at Social Security.