

## Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) Social Security Administration

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program pays benefits to adults and children with disabilities who have limited income and resources. Work incentives for people with disabilities make it possible for those that are receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or SSI to work and still receive monthly payments along with Medicare and/or Medicaid.

### What is a PASS Plan?

The PASS Plan is a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provision to help individuals with disabilities return to work.

### How does the PASS Plan help someone return to work?

SSI eligibility and payment amounts are based on income and resources (things of value that an individual may own). PASS Plans let individuals on SSI set aside money and/or things they own to pay for items or services needed to achieve a specific work goal.

### How do I set up a PASS Plan?

You will first decide on a work goal and determine items and services necessary to achieve your work goal.

Help is available to you from

- o a vocational rehabilitation (VR) counselor with an organization that helps people with disabilities
- o Benefits Specialists of organizations who have contracts with SSA
- o Employment Networks involved in the Ticket to Work program
- o the local Social Security office
- o or any other applicable person willing to help, such as the AgrAbility Specialist

### How does a PASS Plan work?

First, you find out what training, items or services are needed to reach your work goal. It can include supplies to start a business, school expenses, equipment and tools, transportation and uniform requests.

The PASS Plan can help you save earned income to pay for the cost of the items listed in the PASS Plan by setting aside money for installment payments as well as a down payment for things like a vehicle, wheelchair or computer, if needed, to reach your work goal.

The money that is set aside is deducted by SSA from any earned income so that your SSI payment is not reduced for the PASS Plan amount.



Dale is the owner and operator of All Star Advertising Promotions, an Oklahoma-based business that utilizes laser technology to engrave awards and personalize items. Dale made monthly loan payments to achieve his approved employment goal using his Social Security disability benefits through a return to work program, his PASS Plan .

# Plan to Achieve Self-Support

## What happens to the PASS Plan?

- SSA sends the PASS to SSA employees who are trained to work with a PASS Plan.
- PASS Plan experts work directly with you to ensure your work goal is reasonable.
- SSA reviews the plan to make sure the items and services listed on the PASS Plan are needed to achieve the work goal and are reasonably priced.
- SSA must approve your PASS Plan to ensure that set aside income is not counted toward earned income that would reduce your monthly SSI payment.
- You may appeal the decision if your PASS Plan is not approved.

## if you receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), for eligibility, you must:

set aside and/or allocate any income above the SSI income limit within your PASS Plan or participate in a work incentive initiative.

## How do I apply for services?

For more information, contact Social Security Administration Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building 6401, Park Building Baltimore, MD 21235, or call 800-772-1213 National Toll Free, or 800-325-0778 TTY. You can also visit [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).



## About Oklahoma AgrAbility

Oklahoma AgrAbility connects farmers and ranchers with disabilities to resources that may help provide continued success in their enterprise, operation and daily life activities. AgrAbility strives to provide education, assistance and support to those in need.

## Contact Oklahoma AgrAbility

888-885-5588 (voice/tty) • [agrability.okstate.edu](http://agrability.okstate.edu) • [ability@okstate.edu](mailto:ability@okstate.edu)

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