

BENEFITS MANAGEMENT FOR WORKING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES: AN ADVOCATE'S MANUAL

This 230-page manual is by far the most comprehensive treatment of the many issues relating to work and benefits. Most of the 12 chapters have significant edits/updates since our last full edit in 2007, with the most significant edits in our chapters on work incentives and the Ticket to Work (covering all the 2008 regulatory changes).

The *Manual* is a practical, comprehensive and affordable reference book which covers the many aspects of how work activity affects a person's right to Social Security, SSI, Medicaid and Medicare. This is our thirteenth edition of the *Manual* and the 2009 version is the best ever.

The *Manual* contains the latest citations to all relevant Social Security laws, regulations, policies and selected case law, with many tips to assist advocates through this maze of regulation and policy. The *Manual* is written in an outline format which makes it easy to use as a reference book. Many examples are used to illustrate various points and forms are included to show how to develop a PASS proposal and calculate the amount of an SSI check. The *Manual* is a handy resource tool whether you are an attorney, advocate, rehabilitation counselor or consumer.

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits are governed by federal law, regulation and policy. Therefore, the material in the Manual applies to every state of the country.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Edwin J. López-Soto is a 1981 graduate of Cornell Law School and is a former Staff Attorney with the Greater Upstate Law Project, Inc. (now the Empire Justice Center), in Rochester, New York, where he provided research, technical and litigation support to attorneys and paralegals for more than 15 years, as part of a statewide Social Security advocacy project. Currently, he is employed by Cornell University's Program on Employment and Disability as an Extension Associate Faculty member.

James R. Sheldon, Jr. is a 1978 graduate of the University at Buffalo Law School and is Supervising Attorney of the Disability Law Unit at Neighborhood Legal Services in Buffalo, New York. Mr. Sheldon currently supervises three work incentives projects, including a regional Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Project. With Mr. López, he was the co-editor/author of *The Benefits Planner*, a quarterly newsletter on SSI and SSDI work incentives, published between 2001 and 2006.*

* Available at www.nls.org/tocplanr.htm

The *Manual* contains information on the key provisions from the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, most of which have been implemented through new regulations and policies. We have also included the recent regulatory initiatives of the Social Security Administration, including provisions which increase and annually index the amounts considered to be substantial gainful activity or a trial work month.

The Benefits Management Manual Contains 12 Chapters:

- Social Security and SSI Overview
- SSI Income and Resource Rules
- Work Incentives
- Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS) (includes latest version of PASS form)
- Impairment Related Work Expenses
- Subsidies
- Overpayments
- Report Writing and Documentation
- Continuing Disability Reviews
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Ticket to Work and Self Sufficiency (incorporating all 2008 regulatory changes)
- Medicaid and Persons with Disabilities

WHAT READERS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE BENEFITS MANAGEMENT MANUAL

*“... the **Benefits Management for Working People with Disabilities Manual** is a must-own for any private practitioner representing working disabled individuals in need of PASS plans or undergoing disability adjudication because of work activity.”*

*NANCY SHOR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY CLAIMANT’S REPRESENTATIVES*

*“I regard the **Manual** as my benefits planning bible—I must have it with me when I do presentations. It is easily understandable as it presents complex information in simple format and language.”*

*HUNTLEY FORRESTER, PROJECT DIRECTOR
WORK INCENTIVES PLANNING AND ASSISTANCE PROJECT
UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY*

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