

# Student Earned Income Exclusion

## *At-A-Glance*



If you are under age 22 and regularly attending school, the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program will not count up to \$1,700 of earned income per month when SSI calculates your payment amount. The maximum yearly exclusion is \$6,840. These amounts are for the year 2012. They are adjusted each year based on the cost-of-living.

**“Regularly attending school” means that you take one or more courses of study and attend classes:**

- ◆ In a college or university for at least 8 hours a week; or
- ◆ In grades 7-12 for at least 12 hours a week; or
- ◆ In a training course to prepare for employment for at least 12 hours a week (15 hours a week if the course involves shop practice); or
- ◆ For less time for reasons, such as an illness, that is beyond the student's control.

**If you are home taught because of a disability, you may be considered "regularly attending school" by:**

- ◆ Studying a course or courses given by a school (grades 7-12), college, university or government agency; and
- ◆ Having a home visitor or tutor who directs the study.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) applies the Student Earned Income Exclusion before the general income exclusion or the earned income exclusion (\$65 earned income disregard and 50% disregard of what remains).

(For Transition Works demonstration project participants only: Under the SSI waiver, all participants who meet school attendance requirements are entitled to the Student Earned Income Exclusion, without regard to their age. Although the Transition Works project technically ended in late 2010, many participants will have their waivers continue through 2012 or even into 2013.)