

# Work Incentives Planning Services

## Fact Sheet: Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE) Supplemental Security Income

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### **What is it?**

Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE) allows Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients, who are students under age 22 and regularly attending school, to earn up to \$2,040 per month and still receive a full SSI check! There is an annual limit of \$8,230. (Per the Social Security Administration as of 2022). For more information, you can go to the California DB101 website at:

[https://ca.db101.org/ca/programs/income\\_support/ssi/program2b.htm](https://ca.db101.org/ca/programs/income_support/ssi/program2b.htm)

Once you are on this webpage, scroll down to:

### **Working Students: The Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE)**

Or

Visit the Social Security Administration Redbook website which has information in Spanish and English at:

<https://www.ssa.gov/redbook/index.html>

Once you are on the webpage, click on the version that you will understand and look for SEIE in the table of contents found under SSI ONLY EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS

### **How does it work?**

To apply for SEIE, provide a letter on school letterhead to the local Social Security office with the following:

- Name of student
- Social Security number
- The amount of time that the student is in school, including dates that they started school and if they are attending summer school

The letter must be written by individuals such as counselors, itinerant teachers, case managers, or a school official. A new letter must be submitted every calendar year. SEIE can be used during semester and summer breaks as long as you intend to resume the course of study when the break period ends.

### **Why is it important?**

Many young people and their families are afraid that working will cause the loss of SSI cash benefits and Medi-Cal. If you qualify, using SEIE allows you to earn a significant amount of money without losing your SSI cash benefit prematurely. Students can increase their income, keep their Medi-Cal, build work experience and achieve greater financial independence!

## **Need Help with this Information?**

Talk to your Work Incentives Planner (WIP) or another benefits planner such as Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) project for help in determining which SSI work incentives are available to you. Contact your local DOR office to find a WIP near you. To find your local DOR office go to: <https://www.dor.ca.gov/Home/FindAnOffice>

[To locate a WIPA project near you call 1-866-968-7842 or for TTY 1-866-833-2967 or go to: <https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/>]