

# GOING TO WORK <<<<

A Guide to Social Security Benefits and Employment for Young People with Disabilities  
Annual Supplement—2015 Figures



## WHAT'S NEW FOR 2015?

### **Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA):**

Based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index from the third quarter of 2013 through the third quarter of 2014, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries will receive a **1.7 percent COLA** for 2015.

### **Other important updates:**

- The **Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)** amount for individuals with disabilities other than blindness has increased from \$1070/month to **\$1090**.
- The **SGA amount for individuals who are blind** has increased from \$1800/month to **\$1820**.
- The monthly earnings amount used to determine if a month counts for a **Trial Work Period (TWP)** has increased from \$770 to **\$780**.
- The income amount that will have no effect on benefits for SSI beneficiaries who are **students (Student Earned Income Exclusion)** has increased from \$1750/month to **\$1780**. The **yearly maximum** amount has increased from \$7060 to **\$7180**.
- The **1619b Massachusetts State Threshold Amount** for individuals receiving SSI is **\$40,006 (\$40,855** for people who are blind). This means that even if SSI cash benefits are eliminated, MassHealth coverage will remain in effect until annual earnings reach this threshold amount.

For a listing of each state's threshold amount, go to [www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/1619b.htm](http://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/1619b.htm)

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