

GOING TO WORK <<<<

A Guide to Social Security Benefits and Employment for Young People with Disabilities
Annual Supplement—2018 Figures



WHAT'S NEW FOR 2018?

Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA):

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits **will increase 2.0 percent based on the Consumer Price Index** in 2018.

Other important updates:

- The **Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)** amount for individuals with disabilities other than blindness has increased from \$1,170/month to **\$1,180**.
- The **SGA amount for individuals who are blind is \$1,970**.
- The monthly earnings amount used to determine if a month counts for a **Trial Work Period (TWP)** has increased to **\$850**.
- The income amount that will have no effect on benefits for SSI beneficiaries who are **students (Student Earned Income Exclusion)** has increased to **\$1,820**. The **yearly maximum** amount is **\$7,350**.
- The **1619b Massachusetts State Threshold Amount in 2017** for individuals eligible for SSI is **\$40,333 and \$41,182** for people who are blind (2018 adjustment pending). This means that even if SSI cash benefits are eliminated, MassHealth coverage may 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