

Trial Work Period (TWP)

2026 Fact Sheet on Work Incentives

For Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) Beneficiaries, a range of work incentives are available to plan for future benefit needs.

These work incentives occur sequentially along a timeline to allow people to test their earning capacity. The Trial Work Period will help SSDI beneficiaries in their efforts toward employment by allowing them to test their ability to work to their fullest potential, while still receiving their SSDI cash benefit.

For more information and support on your work incentives, contact:

INDIANA WORKS
Work Incentives
Planning and
Assistance

In Northern and
Central Indiana:
1-855-641-8382
(Toll free)

In Southern Indiana:
1-502-548-4492

How It Helps You:

The Trial Work Period allows you nine months during which you can initially test your ability to work to your fullest potential without restrictions on how much you can earn. During these nine months, you can work and receive your full Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefit check no matter how much you earn.

How It Works:

The Trial Work Period months (also called Service Months) are nine months not necessarily in a row, during a 60-month (5 year) rolling period. In 2026, each month you earn gross wages of **\$1,210**, you have used a Trial Work Period month. The amount of earnings for Trial Work Period changes each year.

It is important to consult with a Community Work Incentives Coordinator or a Benefits Information Network Liaison and the Social Security Administration to understand if you are using Trial Work Period months, or may have used them in the past few years. After you use all nine months of Trial Work Period, you should contact Social Security to review your work activity. This is called a Work Continuing Disability Review. When you have used all of the Trial Work Period months an Extended Period of Eligibility begins, and there are other work incentives available during the Extended Period of Eligibility.

A Community Work Incentives Coordinator or a Benefits Information Network Liaison can help you understand the Trial Work Period, how to track your Trial Work Period months and other work incentives that are applicable to you.