

# NC DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR THE BLIND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

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<b>Section:</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Social Security Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) for SSI Recipients</b>
<b>Current Effective Date:</b>	<b>02/08</b>
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## PLAN FOR ACHIEVING SELF SUPPORT (PASS) FOR RECIPIENTS OF SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI - TITLE XVI)

A Plan for Achieving Self Support, or PASS, is designed for recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI-Title XVI) and allows an individual to set aside income and/or resources for a specified time for a work goal. Social Security Administration (SSA) does not count income that is set aside under an approved plan when it decides how much SSI a person receives. This means that a person who sets aside income under a plan may receive a higher SSI benefit than if he or she did not have a plan. A PASS will not increase SSI benefits if the individual already receives the full SSI benefit amount. This also may mean that a person who would not otherwise be eligible for SSI benefits can set aside income and resources under an approved plan to become eligible for SSI benefits. A plan must:

- Be in writing and approved by SSA
- Have a specific work goal which the person can probably reach
- Say how long it will take for the person to reach the goal
- Indicate what income or resources will be set aside and how they will be spent
- Explain how the recipient will keep the income or resources set aside from other money he/she might have, and
- Describe any goods and services needed to reach the goal and explain why they are needed.

For more information on the requirements for a PASS, see ***Working While Disabled: A Guide to Plans for Achieving Self Support***

As referenced, each PASS form is for a specific individual and must be in writing (use form SSA-545-BK, revised 11/05, OMB No. 0960-0559).

As referenced, the PASS must be submitted and approved by the Social Security Office. To locate the appropriate SSA office: sorted by zip code or call 1-(800) 772-1213.

Additional information and assistance can be located by calling toll-free **1-800-772-1213** (for the deaf or hard of hearing, call our **TTY number, 1-800-325-0778**). SSA can answer specific questions and provide information by automated phone service 24 hours a day.