Some myths about working with SSI

**If I work, I will lose my SSI.** Not true.

If you make more than $85 in a month, your SSI payment will be adjusted. Simply put, for every two dollars I earn (over $85), one dollar is taken out of my SSI. (Remember, you will always make more than SSI alone if you choose to work!)

**I will lose Medi-Cal if I choose to work.** Not true!

You will not lose your Medi-Cal coverage. However, if you make more than $1,775 in a month, you may have to begin paying a small amount to keep your coverage.

**If I lose SSI, I will never get it back.** Completely false!

Again, I would have to make more than $1,775 per month before my SSI would be reduced to zero. If I were to lose hours or my job, I would receive SSI as already explained.

If you have more questions about SSI and working, you can:
- Talk to your local SSA office Benefits Planner.
- Talk to your Regional Center Case Manager.
- Talk to your Support Program staff.

**Employment is a winning option!!!**

Working with SSI:

How it all balances out!

A consumer’s guide to understanding SSI when choosing to work!
In the past, the government was a bit mixed up about people working while getting SSI. However…

**THINGS HAVE CHANGED!!**

The government has done their best to set up a system so that -

*everyone who wants to work, can work!*

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**What is SSI?**

- SSI is also called Supplemental Security Income.
- People with Developmental Disabilities usually can (or already do) receive SSI each month.
- SSI comes from tax money and helps to make sure people with Developmental Disabilities live quality lives of their choosing.
- In 2009, the most a single person could get from SSI was $845 per month.

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If you choose to work, everything can be broken down by how much you make:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I earn under $85 per month</th>
<th>I earn over $85 per month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nothing will be deducted from my monthly SSI!</td>
<td>One dollar will be taken out of my SSI for every two dollars made!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If I choose to work and make more than $85 per month, I would have to earn over $1,775 monthly to reduce my SSI payment to zero.

**So, in both cases…**

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I will **ALWAYS** make more than SSI alone if I choose to work!!!