

How does working affect Public Assistance?



You have a job. Now what?

When you start working, the money you earn usually won't affect how much you receive in Public Assistance until the following month.

Even then, getting a job does not necessarily mean you stop receiving Public Assistance right away.

Here's how it works

A portion of what you earn from your job is not counted when determining eligibility for continued Public Assistance. This means new earnings may not result in reduced benefits.

A percentage of your monthly gross income, currently 64%, is not counted, and the remaining amount is reduced by \$150. This amount is used in determining how much you will continue to receive in Public Assistance. If this is your first job while receiving Public Assistance, you may be able to keep all of your earnings and your benefits will remain the same for six consecutive months of your new employment.*

*This is a one-time benefit and only applies to Public Assistance. If you also receive SNAP benefits, your income from both your employment and your Public Assistance benefit will still be counted to determine your SNAP benefits. Therefore, your SNAP benefits will go down or stop. To qualify, your earnings cannot be higher than 200% of the Poverty Level for your household size.

Report your earnings

It's important that you tell your caseworker that you are earning money from a job within 10 days of getting your first paycheck. Not doing so can result in a benefit overpayment, which you must repay.

You also must provide proof that you have a job, such as a letter from your employer or a pay stub to verify how many hours you work, your rate of pay and when you started working.

Supportive services



Need help with expenses related to your job?
You may be eligible for:

- Child care assistance
- Transportation assistance
- Other work-related costs like uniforms, equipment, tools or licensing fees