

# 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 Work Incentives SSI and Medicaid</b>
<b>Current Effective Date:</b>	<b>02/08</b>
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In most cases, if a Supplementary Security Income (SSI) recipient is disabled or blind, regardless of age, and has Medicaid before going to work, Medicaid will continue while the individual works as long as the disabling condition still exists. Also, in most cases, a SSI recipient can keep Medicaid benefits even if earnings are too much to receive a monthly SSI benefit as long as:

- The individual is still disabled or blind, and
- The individual meets all the SSI eligibility requirements, except for the amount of earnings
- The individual was eligible to receive a regular SSI cash payment for at least one month before he/she became eligible under Section 1619, and
- The individual was eligible for Medicaid coverage in the month before he/she became eligible under Section 1619, and
- The individual has continued need for Medicaid in order to work, and
- The individual does not have sufficient earnings to replace SSI cash benefits, Medicaid benefits, and publicly funded personal or attendant care that would be lost due to earnings.

The amount an individual can earn and still receive Medicaid varies from State to State. Social Security Administration (SSA) can advise what that amount is by contact with a local SSA office.

**In 2008, the threshold amount for North Carolina was \$31,474;** however, if earnings are higher than this amount, but the recipient has special work expenses Blind Work Expenses (BWE), Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE) or medical expenses, coverage could continue as determined by the Social Security Administration.