

Plan to Achieve Self Support (PASS)

PASS is an SSI program that creates motivation to work because it allows a person with a disability to set aside money that would otherwise be countable income and/or resources for a specific period of time so that they can reach a work goal.

You can use a PASS if:

- ❖ You have, or will soon have, money other than SSI to set aside.
- ❖ You receive SSI or meet all of the requirements for SSI except for income and/or resources (which could be excluded for a PASS).
- ❖ You have or will have expenses that are needed for getting a vocational evaluation, getting a specific kind of job, or starting a business.
- ❖ Your goal is to some day reduce your need for SSI or get rid of your need for SSDI (earning over \$1220 a month in 2019, \$2040 a month if blind).

How it works:

- ❖ A PASS allows you to set aside income and/or resources for a certain amount of time for a specific work goal. SSA does not count the income/resources that you put aside under your PASS when figuring if you can get SSI and the payment amount.
- ❖ You could set aside money to pay for things such as education, job training, or starting a business as long as the expenses are needed for achieving your work goal.
- ❖ The money set aside is your income or resources such as earnings or SSDI. The money used in your PASS is not from Social Security.

Examples of Expenses:

- ❖ Exploring careers.
- ❖ Attendant care.
- ❖ Equipment, supplies, operation capital, and inventory you need to start and carry on a trade or business.
- ❖ Equipment and tools.
- ❖ Food and shelter while staying at a temporary residence to go to educational, training, employment, trade, or business activities if there is also a cost to keep your permanent residence.

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Examples of Expenses: *(continued)*

- ❖ Job coaching.
- ❖ Job search or relocation costs.
- ❖ Meals eaten during work hours (including job-training and school).
- ❖ Changes to buildings, cars, etc., for operational or access purposes for people with disabilities.
- ❖ Transportation – hiring private or commercial carriers, or hiring a person to drive your car.
- ❖ Transportation – lease, rental, or purchase of a vehicle, plus related costs for fuel, insurance, care, registration, taxes, etc.
- ❖ Tuition, books, supplies, and all costs of things related to an educational or job training facility such as fees for tutoring, testing, counseling, etc.
- ❖ Uniforms, special clothing, and appropriate clothes you need for job interviews or to begin working in an office or professional setting.

Resources

Contact information for assistance:

South Dakota Benefits Specialist Network

Black Hills Special Services
221 S Central Ave, Suite 33
Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: (605) 224-6287 or
(800) 224-5336

Fax: (605) 224-8320

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SDBenefitsSpecialistNetwork

Social Security Online

<https://www.ssa.gov/>

<https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/pass.htm>