

Who Is Eligible for Benefit Analysis Services?

Individuals eligible for services with the Washington State Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and who live in Pierce County are eligible for benefit counseling services. This includes students in transition programs.

Contact Information

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact:

Emily Hart, Pierce County

DD Benefit Specialist

253/798-4563

ehart@co.pierce.wa.us

Pierce County Human Services
Developmental Disabilities
3580 Pacific Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98418-7915

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TACOMA, WA
PERMIT NO. 820

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT ANALYSIS:

*Increase Your Understanding
and Open Doors
to Opportunities*



*Pierce County Human Services
Developmental Disabilities*

What is Social Security Benefit Analysis?

- Providing individuals, families and community stakeholders with information about Social Security benefits and related programs
- Examining the impact Social Security and related programs have on other systems (i.e. housing, food stamps)
- Information gathering and analysis of individual benefit profiles, to illustrate and provide options
- Reducing/alleviating problem situations
- Assisting individuals and families in preparing for changes in their benefits
- Developing support plans to assist with short and long-term funding issues and unmet support needs

Who Should Consider Meeting With a Benefit Specialist?

- Individuals that have been told they cannot receive SS because of parent income (*under age 18 and in school*)
- Individuals with a parent that is retired, deceased or disabled
- Individuals receiving an SSI check less than \$564 per month
- Individuals that are working
- Individuals with extensive paid work history (this can include sheltered and group employment)
- Individuals who are not receiving Social Security or Medicaid benefits because of wages or other circumstances
- Individuals who have been told they are not eligible to receive Social Security benefits
- Individuals in overpayment status
- Individuals approaching threshold amounts

Who Should Consider Meeting With a Benefit Specialist?

Taking the time to sit down with a benefit specialist can provide the opportunity to truly understand Social Security benefits. Common myths can be dispelled and fear eased about work vs. benefits. A benefit specialist can detail the specifics of Social Security Work Incentive programs such as:

*Plan for Achieving Self-Support,
Impairment Related Work Expense,
Subsidies and
Student Earned Income Exclusions.*

With current and accurate information, individuals and families can understand their choices and make informed decisions about their future.