

Student Earned Income Exclusion

Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE) is a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) work-incentive that allows working students under age 22 who are regularly attending school to exclude part of their earnings

from being counted as income. This means there is no reduction in the SSI payment unless the student earns more than \$2,410 gross per month.



Fact: Students who have paid community work experience during high school are more than twice as likely to have paid employment in their first two years of adulthood. *

What does “regularly attending” school mean? Social Security’s

definition of “regularly attending school” means one or more courses of study in a college or university for at least 8 hours a week; in grades 7-12 for at least 12 hours a week; or in a training course to prepare for employment for at least 12 hours a week (15 hours if the course involves shop practice). Adjustments are made for those who are homebound and homeschooled.

The exclusion is not optional. As long as the student attends school regularly before summer break and returns to regular attendance after summer break, the exclusion is effective through the summer months. If the student is eligible, the exclusion must be applied.



***Source:** Research by Vanderbilt University: Effects of Paid Work in High School on the Employment Outcomes of Youth with Severe Disabilities: A Randomized Control Trial Intervention Development <https://transition.vcurrtc.org/research/study5.cfm>