



**More than Employment**

- Empowerment
- Community Inclusion
- Increase Self-Worth
- Moving Out of Poverty
- Creating a Better Life
- Opportunity to Dream

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**Message of Encouragement**

- People with disabilities can and do work.
- Cash benefits from Social Security do not have to be a lifetime thing.
  - It for the short term
  - Work incentives can be used to become more self-sufficient through employment
- The interaction of public benefits and work is complicated.
  - Many resources out there to help your situation
- There are avenues to continuing your healthcare coverage if you work.
  - You should take a look at DB 101.

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**Social Security Basics**




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**Social Security Definition of Disability – Child Under 18:**

- A child under 18 is considered disabled if the child has a physical or mental impairment which:
  - Causes severe functional limitations, and
  - Has lasted or can be expected to last for at least 12 months, or
  - Can be expected to lead to death
- There is a disability redetermination at age 18.

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**Social Security Definition of Disability – Over 18, the definition changes:**

- According to Social Security, a person over 18 is considered disabled if the person has a physical or mental impairment which:
  - Prevents the person from any Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) - earning a certain amount of money, *and that*
  - Has lasted or can be expected to last for at least 12 months, or
  - Can be expected to result in death

**Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999**

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**SSDI & SSI - Different Programs Different Rules**

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|--|---|
| <p><b>Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) - Title II Social Insurance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Based on work history &amp; amount paid into the system.</li> <li>▪ Deceased/retired parent's or spouse work history.</li> <li>▪ Childhood Disability Beneficiary (age 18)</li> <li>▪ Medicare</li> </ul> | <p><b>SSDI:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Either get a check or don't based on earnings and what "phase" of work.</li> <li>▪ The rules are different at each phase.</li> <li>▪ Can get back on benefits without reapplying if check stops due to earnings.</li> <li>▪ Medicare continues as long as a check and continues even after that for many years.</li> </ul> |
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**DB101 User Experience**

- Easy to navigate
- Information provided in layers in easy-to-read articles
- User friendly work and benefits calculators
- “Next Steps” access to local, state, and national resources
- Click on definitions and question boxes throughout the site
- Useful Search and Site Map leads to desired section
- Páginas en Español
- Linkage and reference throughout to *Ask the Experts* at: **Benefits 2 Work Arizona (B2W)**

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**Not receiving Social Security Benefits?**

- DB101 can still be useful
  - Key Programs and Eligibilities
  - Articles Related to Different Significant Life Changes
  - Programs That Support Work
  - ACA Questions and Resources
  - Housing
  - Asset Building
  - Links To Resources, Numerous Organizations and Programs
  - And Much More

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**Implementing DB101 into Everyday Practice**

- Use DB101 in creating individualized and effective IEPs & ECAPs
- Integrate a DB101 calculator saved session into a interest/skill sets assessment and transition plans
- Provide desktop links at public work station computers
- Imbed DB101 information into existing documents
- Use DB1010 links and print out articles for educational purposes, support groups discussions, or supportive documentation

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### Disability Benefits 101

working with a disability in Arizona

[www.az.db101.org](http://www.az.db101.org)



### Overview

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### Calculations

#### The DB101 School and Work Calculator

Bruce: 16, in school on SSI living with family

- Bruce is 16. Born June 1999.
- He receives \$170 monthly from SSI.
- He lives at home and does not pay his fair share.
- He attends school at least half-time.
- He receives no other benefits or cash assistance.
- He has a opportunity to work at \$10 a hour for 15 hours a week.

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### Student Earned Income Exclusion

- Allows SSI recipients that are under 22 and attending school at least half-time to work without their SSI benefit decreasing.
  - Up to \$1,780 each month with an annual cap of \$7,180
  - Attending school half-time:
    - In college at least 8 hours a week
    - In grades 7-12 at least 12 hours a week
    - In (some) training classes 12-15 hours a week

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### College and Career Readiness

- 8 Components of College and Career Readiness Counseling
  - College Aspirations
  - Academic Planning for College and Career Readiness
  - Enrichment and Extracurricular Engagement
  - College and Career Exploration and Selection Processes
  - College and Career Assessments
  - College Affordability Planning
  - College and Career Admission Processes
  - Transition from High School to College Enrollment

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### Individualized Education Program (IEP)

- Measurable Postsecondary Goals
  - [Training/Education](#)
  - [Employment](#)
  - [Independent Living](#)

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### Individualized Education Program (IEP)

- Transition Service Activities
  - [Education/Instruction](#)
  - [Community Experience](#)
  - [Employment](#)
  - [Adult Living](#)
  - [Daily Living Skills](#)
  - [Functional/Vocational](#)
  - [Related Services](#)

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### Education & Career Action Plans (ECAP)

- [Academic](#)
- [Career](#)
- [Postsecondary](#)
- [Extracurricular](#)

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### Scenarios

- [I want to work but my parents are worried.](#)
- [Do I have to tell an employer about my disability?](#)
- [I can't lose my healthcare.](#)
- [What will happen to my SSA check if I work?](#)
- [I want to move out of my parent's home.](#)
- [How can I pay for my living expenses?](#)
- [How can I apply for benefits?](#)

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### Ongoing Partnership

- Technical assistance and additional training.
- Specific tools and resource development.
- DB101 assistance for youth and families.
- WIIN Digital Hub - Materials, Resources and Shared Data Collection
  - Promotional materials
  - Talking points
  - Article suggests
  - Outcome reporting



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### Work Incentives Consultants Throughout Arizona

*Benefits 2 Work Arizona is an program  
supporting Social Security beneficiaries with  
disabilities in their transition to work.*



**1-866-304- WORK (9675)**



Managed by  
**Arizona Bridge to Independent Living**  
subcontracted with  
**DIRECT Center for Independence**



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