

# Subsidy

Do you receive additional support at work because of your disability? If so, you may be eligible for a subsidy. A subsidy is the value of the support you receive at work and it may reduce the amount of your wages that Social Security will count when they determine if you have earned Substantial Gainful Activity.

Examples of a subsidy would be:

- ◆ Suzy experiences depression. She had a hard time staying on task and meeting deadlines. Her employer restructured the job to eliminate nonessential job functions such as making copies of files and greeting walk-in customers. The employer relocated Suzy's office out of the front reception area to reduce distractions. Suzy also met with her supervisor every Monday to set goals and discuss weekly projects.
- ◆ Bob has a back problem. He has restrictions on bending and lifting. He works as a stocker at a grocery store. A co-worker loads boxes on Bob's rolling cart and Bob only stocks the shelves at waist level and above.

## Are you Eligible?

Subsidy or special conditions may exist if:

- ◆ You receive more supervision than other workers doing the same or a similar job for the same pay.
- ◆ You have fewer or simpler tasks to complete than other workers doing the same job for the same pay.
- ◆ You have a job coach or mentor who helps you perform some of your work.



## What you will need:

- ◆ **Inform your employer that you have asked for a subsidy. They will be receiving a phone call from Social Security or a form #3033 asking what supports they gave you.**
- ◆ Complete question #5 on a Work Activity Report form (form 821)
  - You can get a Work Activity Report form from your local Social Security office or on the Social Security website [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)
  - Let Social Security know which job you are claiming the subsidy for.

## How does this help?

- ◆ If your subsidy is accepted by Social Security you may be able to deduct an amount of money or a percentage of your income to lower your countable gross income.

A subsidy can not be used during a Trial Work Period  
to lower your countable gross income.