Expedited Reinstatement (EXR) of Social Security Benefits

What is Expedited Reinstatement?

Expedited Reinstatement (EXR) is a safety net for people who return to work and later lose their SSDI or SSI benefits and payments. If your cash payments ended because of work and earnings, and you stop work within five (5) years of when your benefits ended, Social Security may be able to start your benefits again.

You are eligible if:

You are an SSDI or SSI beneficiary who:

- Stopped receiving benefits because of earnings from work,
- Are unable to work or perform substantial gainful activity,
- Are disabled because of an impairment that is the same as or related to the impairment that allowed you to get benefits earlier, and
- Make the request within 5 years from the month your benefits ended.

What are provisional benefits?

Provisional benefits can be paid when you request EXR. It will include cash payments and Medicare/Medicaid coverage. They usually do not have to be paid back if the Social Security Administration denies your request. Provisional payments are paid for up to six months, but will end sooner if you:

- Are notified of the Social Security Administration's EXR decision
- Engage in Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)
- Reach full retirement age

What is Substantial Gainful Activity?

The term **"Substantial Gainful Activity", SGA,** is used to describe a level of work activity and earnings. Work is **"Substantial"** if it involves doing significant physical or mental activities or a combination of both. For work activity to be substantial, it does not need to be performed on a full-time basis. Work activity performed on a part-time basis may also be substantial gainful activity. **"Gainful"** work activity is:

- Work performed for pay or profit; or
- Work of a nature generally performed for pay or profit; or
- Work intended for profit, whether or not a profit is realized.

For more information contact: Social Security Administration (SSA)

- www.socialsecurity.gov
- 800-772-1213 or
- visit your local Social Security office

To view and/or print Fact Sheets, go to: http://cdd.unm.edu/infonet/publications/index.asp