

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Earned Income Disregard

The Earned Income Disregard (EID) allows certain increases in household income to not be counted when calculating the rent payment of people with disabilities in the following HUD programs:

- Public Housing
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program
- Section 8 Voucher Program
- Supportive Housing Program
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS

Rent in any of these programs usually increases when a resident's income increases. With the Earned Income Disregard, rent is not increased for the first 12 months after the person's income increases due to work. Only 50% of the income increase is counted in calculating rent for the second 12 months.

Example:

Sam's old income (not working)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) check of **\$674**

Sam's new income when working

Wages of \$300 + SSI of \$566.50 = **\$866.50**

Sam now has \$192.50 more income each month. Usually, his rent would increase by about \$58 due to his overall increase in income. However, if Sam is eligible for the EID, there is no increase in his rent for the first 12 months that he has this in-come. In the second 12 months, only 50% or \$96.25 of his income increase would be included in figuring his rent increase.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE EARNED INCOME DISREGARD (EID)?

Check all of the boxes either "yes" or "no" in order to see if the Earned Income Disregard applies to you.

	YES	NO
1. I participate in one of the housing types listed above.		
2. Someone in my household who is disabled had a recent increase in earned income from work.		
3. At least <u>one</u> of the following statements is true: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. That disabled person had been unemployed for 12 or more months before the increase. b. That disabled person has earned \$3,075 or less in wages during the past 12 months. c. Our household received at least \$500 total in MFIP cash assistance or services or participated in a Welfare-To-Work program within the last 6 months. d. The disabled person with the earned income received an income increase <i>while</i> participating in a self-sufficiency or job training program. 		

(continued . . .)

If you answer “Yes” to #1, #2, and at least one part of #3, you are eligible for the EID.

You should ask your housing manager for a disregard that begins with the first day that you started work. If necessary, cite the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 24, Volume 1, [CITE: 24 C.F.R. § 5.617 for Section 8] [CITE: 24 C.F.R. § 960.255 for Public Housing]

If you believe you qualify for the Earned Income Disregard, but your Housing Manager disagrees, contact the **Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) Project** through the Minnesota Disability Law Center. PABSS provides advocacy for persons with disabilities who are Social Security beneficiaries (SSI and/or SSDI) who need legal assistance to overcome barriers to obtaining, maintaining, or regaining employment. Your local Legal Services office can also assist you with matters related to the Earned Income Disregard.

Contact PABSS:

Via e-mail at: mndlc@midmnlegal.org

By phone at:

612-334-5970 (Intake - Minneapolis)

651-222-4737 (Intake - St. Paul and Southern MN)

1-800-292-4150 (Intake – Toll free from Greater MN)

TDD: 612-332-4668.

Both Minneapolis and St. Paul Legal Aid have regional offices elsewhere in the state. Depending on where you're calling from, you may be referred to another office.



Answers, Choices, Possibilities

**For more information, call the MN Work Incentives Connection:
651-632-5113 or 1-800-976-6728
(TTY: 651-632-5110 or Minnesota Relay – 711)**