

Utah Benefits Planning, Assistance and Outreach Program (UBPAO)

The UBPAO is designed to provide services to Social Security disability beneficiaries who are considering employment options. The goal of the program is to give the beneficiary adequate information on how employment will impact their benefits so they may make an informed choice concerning work. Services offered through the UBPAO program include:

Information and Referral	<p>In this level of service, the Benefits Specialist or staff provides basic information and referral either in person, over the telephone, or by informational mailings. Services may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Answering <u>general</u> questions regarding eligibility, benefits, and work incentives. ▪ Accepting referrals and filling out referral form. ▪ Referring individuals to community resources.
Problem Solving and Advocacy	<p>A Benefits Specialist will gather personal information about a consumer's situation and specific issues are addressed. Services may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Answering questions specific to the consumer regarding federal and state benefits and work incentive options. ▪ Gathering information and verifying facts from collaborative sources to assist the individual or help generate a benefits analysis. ▪ Problem solving with the consumer and discuss possible courses of action.
Benefits Analysis and Advisement	<p>The Benefits Specialist will sort relevant information and prepare a written benefit analysis discussing the impact of employment on benefits and present that analysis. Services may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Analyzing information gathered regarding the consumer. ▪ Writing benefits analysis and presenting it to the consumer.
Benefits Support Planning	<p>A Benefits Specialist may provide direct assistance to consumers in developing work incentive plans and accessing specific work incentives. Services may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reviewing previously written analysis and consumer's current situation to assess possible work incentive applicability and "map" out their situation. ▪ Assisting an individual in establishing a Subsidy, an Impairment Related Work Expense, or a PASS plan. Assisting the consumer in accessing work incentives offered by other community supports, such as housing, food stamps, or Medicaid. ▪ Assisting the consumer in filling out a Work Activity Report form.
Benefits Management	<p>May involve ongoing benefits monitoring and management assistance to consumers likely to experience changes that may affect their overall situation. Services may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring progress of any "map" that may have been written during Benefits Support Planning. ▪ Periodically updating the consumer's situation, reassessment of benefits and overall impacts, education and advisement, and additional planning for monitoring and managing benefits. ▪ Helping find natural supports to take over management duties.

Who and When to Refer

Referral can be made **only for individuals who are currently receiving SSI/SSDI benefits** and would like information on how working may impact their benefits. Referral to the UBPAO may be made when the individual is considering, returning to work, increasing the number of work hours or entering employment training programs

Who Can Refer

Anyone who has knowledge of an individual who is a beneficiary of SSI/SSDI can refer to the UBPAO program. Beneficiaries may also self-refer.

How to Refer to UBPAO

Fully complete the attached referral form and **FAX your referral to (801) 887-9389.**

The UBPAO can be contacted at:
 (801) 887-9530 (voice and TTY) in Salt Lake City or
 Toll Free 1-866-454-8397