

Work and Benefits: FEARS AND FIXES

I'm not going to work because:	I can go to work now because:
I am afraid to lose my healthcare.	There are a number of programs that can protect my health care. One of the newest programs in Connecticut is called Medicaid for the Employed Disabled. I can have income of up to \$75,000 a year and still keep Medicaid coverage. Also, if I have Medicare, my coverage is likely to continue if I go to work.
I am afraid of losing my benefits and then finding out I can no longer work. I've always heard that it is so hard to get back on benefits.	There is a new Social Security program called Expedited Reinstatement where I may be able to quickly get back on SSI or SSDI benefits, without a new application, for up to five years after my eligibility for benefits has stopped.
I am afraid of losing my coverage for Personal Assistance Services.	If I am working and have income under \$75,000, I may be able to access the Personal Care Assistance waiver.
I am afraid to lose my subsidized housing.	There is a new work incentive where I may be able to freeze my rent for one year if I go to work.
I don't trust that I am getting accurate information about what will happen to all of my benefits if I go to work.	Through the Connect to Work project, I have access to benefits specialists who will tell me exactly what will happen to all of my state and federal benefits when I go to work. This will help me make better decisions about work.

For more information, contact the Connect to Work Center.

1-800-773-4636 or 1-860-424-4839 (TTY) email: <u>connecttowork.dss@po.state.ct.us</u> Connecticut Department of Social Services, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services