Expedited Reinstatement (EXR): SSI & SSDI

Fact Sheet 2016

What is EXR?
EXR is the ultimate safety net that former Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients may use to have their benefits reinstated. To qualify for EXR, the following conditions must be met:

- For SSI recipients, your case must have been terminated due to 12 consecutive months of excess work income;
- For SSDI recipients, your case must have been terminated due to Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) after the Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE), or (in 2016) if their gross monthly earnings have exceeded $1,130, after EPE;
- You cannot perform SGA due to your disability, or because of a disability-related medical condition;
- You request EXR within 5 years (60 months) from the month your claim was closed.

How does EXR work?
When you apply for EXR, you will be eligible for up to 6 months of provisional cash and public health insurance (Medicare and/or MassHealth) benefits, while Social Security is reviewing the continuation of your original disability.

What if my EXR request is approved?
If approved, your disability benefits will be officially reinstated and you will begin your Initial Reinstatement Period (IRP). Your IRP will conclude after receiving 24 cash payments. During IRP, SSDI beneficiaries will receive a payment during any month they are not performing SGA, and for SSI beneficiaries, during any month they do not have excess income.

What are the benefits of EXR?
- To qualify for EXR, you only have to meet the medical standard instead of the medical and vocational standards
- You get up to 6 months of temporary cash and health insurance benefits, while Social Security is making an EXR decision;
- For SSDI recipients:
  - If EXR is approved, there is no additional 5-month waiting period as you experienced when you initially applied for SSDI;
  - You will be entitled to a full set of SSDI work incentives (Trial Work Period, Extended Period of Eligibility, etc.) once your IRP is considered complete.

What if my EXR request is denied?
If denied, your provisional benefits will not be considered as an overpayment. Therefore, you do not have to pay anything back. Also, you can appeal Social Security’s decision within 10 business days of receiving official notification of their EXR decision.

If your SSI or SSDI case terminated as a result of your work activity, but then you become unable to work due to your disability, you may receive your SSI and/or SSDI benefits again through Expedited Reinstatement (EXR). With EXR, you get provisional cash benefits after submitting a new application for benefits.