

**Use the worksheet on page 2 to help youth understand the Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE) and how it impacts income.**

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Time  
20-30 minutes

The activity is based on the Get a Smart Start video available on the Partners and Youth pages. Nick is trying to understand how SEIE can help him. His friend Marcus told him about the DB101 website and so he's logged on there and wants to see what would happen if he earned \$550/month.

The SSI Try-It that calculated "Countable Earned Income with SEIE" is a great way for Nick to see how much of his earnings would affect his SSI.

Visit [http://mn.db101.org/mn/programs/income\\_support/ssi/program2b.htm](http://mn.db101.org/mn/programs/income_support/ssi/program2b.htm)

Let's see what happens when we show Nick having \$550/month of earned income and \$0 Impairment Related Work Expenses.

**AFTER GETTING RESULTS:** You can see, given the information we entered, none of his earnings would count, so it is estimated that his SSI would stay the same because of the special student work incentive, called the Student Earned Income Exclusion or SEIE.

Now remember, since these benefit programs can be complicated, it's important you read up on the information on DB101 to build your knowledge, and it's important you talk with a benefits expert to get answers to any of your questions.

Just like with Marcus, Nick, and Rosita, bad information and fear don't have to stop you from reaching your work goals.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Help Nick understand how being a student means he can keep more of his SSI when he works through the Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE) work incentive. Put the following example in the SSI Try-It (Countable Earned Income with SEIE) so he and his parents can see how it's possible to get ahead when working.

- Your Monthly Earned Income: \$550
- Your Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWEs): \$0

1. How much money did Nick have each month when he wasn't working?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How much money did Nick have each month when he was a student and earning \$550/month from his job at the hardware store?

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