## **DDD** Social Security Administration (SSA) Benefits

REVISION 04 (04/01/08 - 06/30/08)

SSA benefits include Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) payments. These payments can be received by any of the following:

- Entitled wage earners
- Dependent children of the entitled wage earner

A child may be receiving SSA benefits as a result of a parent's or stepparent's death, retirement, or disability. Siblings may also be receiving SSA benefits. Inquire further when this information does not display on ININ.

Surviving <u>spouse(g)</u> of an entitled wage earner
When ININ displays a dual or triple entitlement, multiple
benefits are calculated and combined into one payment. The
total payment will not exceed the highest single benefit
amount.

Count the gross amount of the SSA benefits rounded down to the nearest whole dollar.

NOTE Do not deduct the <u>Medicare Premium</u> from the gross amount of the SSA benefits.

When there is a discrepancy in the amount being paid to the participant, contact SSA while the participant is present to verify the amount being paid. (See <u>SSA Local Offices</u>)

When the participant is not present, see WTPY for procedures.

## **WARNING**

When determining the countable SSA benefit, do not add in the reduced amount to the net SSA payment when SSA income is reduced to collect an SSI or SSA overpayment.

Count SSA benefits paid to a representative payee on behalf of a participant when one of the following occur:

• The payee lives with the budgetary unit

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 The payee lives outside the home and makes the income available for the support of the participant (See Example Representative Payee)

NOTE The SSA benefits do not need to be given directly to the budgetary unit by the payee but must be used to provide for the needs of the participant, to be considered countable.

When an organization withholds a fee to act as a representative payee for an SSI or SSDI participant, deduct the monthly fee from the gross income. The amount of the fee is not countable.

## **CA WARNING**

The participant may receive both <u>SSI</u> and SSA. Count only the portion of the SSA income that is designated for a spouse or dependent toward the CA budgetary unit.

Key unearned income on UNIC using the Unearned Income Code that applies to the Unearned Income Type. (See <u>Display Table</u> Values – Overview to access a list of current codes.)