Questions about the impact of earnings on public benefits typically come up right away. During CE Launch your brought up this topic and referred the employment seeker to a benefits planner. If the person was not able to connect with a benefits planner, assist them in confirming the type of Social Security benefit they have by calling Social Security, logging into their my SSA account, or getting a Benefits Planning Query (BPQY) from their local Social Security office (see the [Benefits Planning Query Handbook](https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/documents/BPQY_Handbook.pdf) for reference). Print the handbook and take it with you if you plan to drop into the local office. Or contact your mentor and they will help you reach out to [your Area Work Incentives Coordinators (AWICs)](https://www.ssa.gov/chicago/awic.html), and the local office's Work Incentive Liaison (WIL).

Your mentor will help you understand the BPQY and find the employment seeker's Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) potential. Based on what you learn, your mentor may recommend ways to get your employment seeker set up with a Benefits Planner. If any Work Incentives will be used during the Discovery or Customized Employment Process, a consult with a Benefits Planner is recommended.

Assistive Technology (AT) are items, tools, or equipment that augment an individual's functional performance. Access to effective AT can enhance the Discovery process and provide on-the-job accommodations and adaptations. Discuss with your team and, if appropriate, make a referral to the nearest Assistive Technology Resource Center for an assistive technology consultation.