



Annual Earnings Exemption (AEE)

What is different under AEE?

- The current monthly earnings exemption allows clients to keep up to the following amount of earned income each month:
 - Single individual who has the PWD designation - \$800.
 - Couple where only one adult has the PWD designation – \$1,000.
 - Couple where both adults have the PWD designation - \$1,600.
- The AEE allows individuals to keep up to the following amount of earned income each year:
 - Single individual who has the PWD designation - \$9,600.
 - Couple where only one adult has the PWD designation - \$12,000.
 - Couple where both adults have the PWD designation - \$19,200.
- Under the new AEE, individuals receiving disability assistance will be able to earn up to their AEE limit during the year, with no monthly maximums, without affecting their disability benefits.
 - For example, if a single individual who has the PWD designation earns more than the \$800 per month, they will be able to keep all that money up to a maximum total of \$9,600 for the year.
- The 2013 exemption will be based on money earned from January to December 2013. Due to the income reporting process, this timeframe impacts benefit months from March 2013 to February 2014.
- **Once the ministry receives your agreement to participate, you will not be able to switch back to monthly EE until 2014.**
- If your AEE is reached, your earnings will be deducted dollar for dollar from your disability benefits. If your earnings are over assistance rates, you may be eligible for Medical Services Only (MSO) coverage.

What is the same?

- You will continue to receive services from your local MSD office.
- If there is a change in your family (you join with or separate from a spouse), the amount of your earnings exemption limit will also change.

What will AEE participants need to do?

- **Submit your Monthly Report (cheque stub) before the 5th of each month, declaring income received each month, even if your income does not change; and**
- Advise the ministry of any changes in circumstances.
- You may be asked to take part in a confidential evaluation of the AEE. This will be your opportunity to tell us how the AEE has worked for you.
- Further information will be posted at www.sd.gov.bc.ca/pwd/aee/index.html.

What the ministry will do?

- If you choose to continue to participate in the AEE, the ministry will send you a monthly letter with the following information:
 - The total earned income you declared that month;
 - The total earned income you have declared year-to-date; and
 - The remaining room left in your annual earnings exemption limit.