

About Social Security Disability Programs

The Social Security Administration makes disability payment under two programs:

- **Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)** for workers (and their children or surviving spouses) who have Social Security coverage; and
- **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** for people with little or no income and resources.

DO YOU HAVE A DISABILITY?

- Adults must have a physical and/or mental problem that keeps them from working for at least 12 months, or is expected to result in death.
- Children must have a physical and/or mental problem that prevents them from doing things that children the same age normally do.

HOW DO YOU START?

If you think that you may be eligible for payments, call **1-800-772-1213** to file a claim, or contact you local Social Security Office. If you want someone to help you , such as a family member, caseworker or other representative, that person may contact the office for you.

WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO DO?

You will get a faster decision if you provide:

- Your Social Security number
- Medical records from your doctors, therapists, hospitals, clinics, and caseworkers
- Laboratory and test results
- Names, addresses, phone and fax numbers of your doctors, clinics and hospitals
- Names of all medications the patient is taking
- Names of employers and job duties for the last 15 years

If you are filing for a child, you also need school records regarding you child's disability.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Don't wait to file your claim for disability payments even if you don't have all this information.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- Social Security Administration will send the information provided to the state disability determination agency.
- Claims specialists and doctors there will
 - Review what has been give, and make a decision if there is enough information, or
 - Request any additional information they need, and if necessary, ask for an exam or special test at no cost.

Social Security Administration (SSA) will then send a decision. If you claim is approved, SSA will tell you your payment amount and when payments will start. If SSA denies your claim, SSA will tell you your appeal rights.

Remember: you can call 1-800-772-1213 if you have questions or need more information. People who are deaf or hearing impaired may call toll-free "TTY" number 1-800-325-0778, between 7 am and 7 pm on business days.