

Tribal Social Security Fairness Act of 2018

The Tribal Social Security Fairness Act of 2018 was signed into law on September 20, 2018. This new law allows federally recognized Indian tribes to extend Social Security coverage to tribal council positions voluntarily through an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security under Section 218A of the Social Security Act.

Under this new legislation, if a tribe chooses to enter into an agreement for coverage, then all tribal council positions are covered. Coverage will apply to any current and future tribal council members, and cannot be terminated once granted. Coverage will be effective the month after the month the agreement is signed, unless the tribe requests a later effective date. The tribes may also request retroactive coverage for periods for which they have already paid Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes and not received a refund.

Interested and eligible tribes should contact the appropriate Social Security regional office specialist for assistance in obtaining coverage.

Contact your local specialist from the list below:

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

Kirk S. Jockell

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Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts,
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Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota,
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