

Social Security Administration



Federal Program Inventory

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Introduction

The GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 serves as a catalyst to all agencies to develop and submit a central inventory reporting all of its Federal programs. The goal of our Federal Program Inventory is to:

- Demonstrate the link between our programs and our strategic, budget, and performance objectives
- Encourage collaboration across our agency
- Enhance partnerships with other Federal agencies through the disclosure of our programs
- Facilitate understanding among the general public regarding our key programs

This document describes each of our Federal programs as set forth in the Social Security Act (Act). We also include information about programs where we provide administrative support. The programs where we provide assistance, but do not maintain a lead role involve the administration of the Medicare Program for which the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has the lead responsibility.

For additional information regarding how these programs dovetail with our priority goals and cross-agency priority goals, please refer to our quarterly submissions on the [Performance.gov](http://goals.performance.gov) website (<http://goals.performance.gov/agency/ssa>).

Approach

Through our programs, we touch the life of virtually every person in America, as well as the lives of many other people throughout the world. We developed our Federal Program Inventory to explain our key programs and how these programs link to our strategic goals, objectives, and budgetary resources. This list of programs mirrors the laws set forth by Congress to ensure we remain true to our agency's mission and purpose, while responding to the interests of key external stakeholders (including congressional committees) and the public.

Funding

Our funding consists of two different types of budget authority (BA): Mandatory BA and Discretionary BA. Mandatory BA mainly funds program benefits, while discretionary BA mainly funds the employee salaries and related costs required to oversee the programs. The program integrity administrative expenses account (PIAE) shown for the Disability Insurance (DI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs is a legislative proposal to help ensure that beneficiaries of both programs continue to be eligible for benefits.

Old Age and Survivors Insurance

Created in 1935, the Old Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) program provides retirement and survivors benefits to qualified workers and their families. When people work and pay Social Security taxes, they earn credits toward Social Security benefits. Most people need 40 credits, or 10 years of covered work, to qualify for OASI. Since we base Social Security benefit amounts on a worker’s lifetime earnings, it is critical that we maintain accurate earnings records and credit the correct amount of earnings to the right person. Survivors benefits provide income to family members of workers who die. Survivors eligible for benefits include widows or widowers, minor or disabled children, surviving divorced spouses, and dependent parents.

OASI Total Budget Authority (in millions of dollars)

	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 request
Mandatory	\$635,742	\$674,769	\$717,325
Discretionary	\$2,804	\$2,759	\$2,664
Total	\$638,546	\$677,528	\$719,989

Supported Strategic Goal: Provide quality services to the public

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Increase the use of online services
- Increase public satisfaction with our telephone service
- Expand the use of video services
- Improve the clarity of our notices

Supported Strategic Goal: Preserve trust in our programs

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Increase efforts to accurately pay benefits
- Recover improper payments
- Maintain accurate earnings records

Supported Strategic Goal: Strengthen our workforce and infrastructure

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Strengthen our workforce—recruit, train, develop, and retain superior employees
- Maintain secure and reliable information technology services

Disability Insurance

In 1956, Social Security expanded to include a benefit program for disabled workers aged 50-65 and their families. In 1960, disabled workers of all ages could apply for DI benefits. We pay benefits to people who cannot work because they have a medical condition expected to last at least one year or result in death. We continue to find ways to improve our disability program. We regularly update our disability policies, procedures, and tools to keep up with the continuous advances in medicine and technology. We also made fundamental changes in the way we request and receive medical information used to determine disability.

DI Total Budget Authority (in millions of dollars)

	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 request
Mandatory	\$136,143	\$142,318	\$146,452
Mandatory PIAE	N/A	160	640
Discretionary	3,011	2,894	2,535
Total	\$139,154	\$145,372	\$149,627

Supported Strategic Goal: Deliver quality disability decisions and services

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Reduce the wait time for hearing decisions and eliminate the hearings backlog
- Improve our disability policies, procedures, and tools
- Expedite cases for the most severely disabled individuals
- Improve the clarity of our notices

Supported Strategic Goal: Provide quality service to the public

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Expand the use of video services
- Improve the clarity of our notices

Supported Strategic Goal: Strengthen our workforce and infrastructure

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Strengthen our workforce—recruit, train, develop, and retain superior employees
- Maintain secure and reliable information technology services

Supplemental Security Income

Established in 1972, SSI is a means-tested program designed to provide a monthly payment to aged, blind, or disabled people with limited income and resources. Children, as well as adults, can receive payments based on disability or blindness.

SSI Total Budget Authority (in millions of dollars)			
	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 request
Mandatory	\$47,608	\$53,307	\$55,589
Mandatory PIAE	N/A	106	\$587
Discretionary	\$3,612	\$3,615	\$3,861
State Supplementary User Fees ¹	\$160	\$160	\$173
Total	\$51,380	\$57,188	\$60,210

Supported Strategic Goal: Preserve trust in our programs

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Increase efforts to accurately pay benefits
- Recover improper payments
- Maintain accurate earnings records

Supported Strategic Goal: Provide quality service to the public

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Increase the use of our online services
- Increase public satisfaction with our telephone services

Supported Strategic Goal: Strengthen our workforce and infrastructure

Strategic Objectives Associated with the Strategic Goal:

- Strengthen our workforce—recruit, train, develop, and retain superior employees
- Maintain secure and reliable information technology services

¹ This represents funding collected from States to support our administration of the State Supplementary program. This is one of the funding sources for SSA's Limitation on Administrative Expenses account, and not part of the SSI appropriation.

Programs Where SSA Provides Assistance

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is the lead agency within HHS responsible for the oversight and implementation of Medicare. Our agency provides administrative support to CMS. For specific information on Medicare, please see the HHS program inventory.