Social Security

You May Be Able to Get Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

2016

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What is SSI?

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal program that provides monthly payments to people who have limited income and few resources. SSI is for people who are 65 or older, as well as for those of any age, including children, who are blind or who have disabilities.

To get SSI, you must:

- Be age 65 or older;
- Be totally or partially blind; or
- Have a medical condition that keeps you from working and is expected to last at least one year or result in death.

There are different rules for children. For more information, read *Benefits for Children With Disabilities* (Publication No. 05-10026).

How much can you get?

The basic monthly SSI payment for 2016 is the same nationwide. It is:

—$733 for one person; or

—$1,100 for a couple.

Not everyone gets the same amount. You may get more if you live in a state that adds money to the federal SSI payment. You may receive less if you or your family has other income. Where

and with whom you live also makes a difference in the amount of your SSI payment.

How do you qualify for SSI?

Your income

Your income includes the money you earn, your Social Security benefits, your pensions and the value of items you get from someone else, such as food and shelter.

Where you live affects the amount of income you can have each month and still get SSI. Different states have different rules.

Things you own

You may be able to get SSI if your resources (the things you own) are worth no more than $2,000 for a person or $3,000 for a married couple living together. We don't count everything you own when we decide if you can get SSI. For example, we don't count a house you own if you live in it, and we usually don't count your car. We do count cash, bank accounts, stocks and bonds.

You must be a U.S. resident

You must live in the United States or Northern Mariana Islands to get SSI. If you're not a U.S. citizen, but you are lawfully residing in the United States, you still may be able to get SSI. For more information, read *Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for Noncitizens* (Publication No. 05-11051).

Other benefits

To receive SSI, you also must apply for any other government benefits for which you may be eligible If you get SSI, you usually can get benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid, too. Medicaid helps pay doctor and hospital bills, and SNAP helps pay for food.

How do you apply for SSI?

Contact us to set up an appointment to apply for SSI at your local Social Security office.

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Contacting Social Security

Visit ***www.socialsecurity.gov*** anytime to apply for benefits, open a ***my*** **Social Security** account, find publications, and get answers to frequently asked questions. Or, call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213** (for the deaf or hard of hearing, call our TTY number, **1-800-325-0778**). We can answer case-specific questions from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Generally, you'll have a shorter wait time if you call after Tuesday. We treat all calls confidentially. We also want to make sure you receive accurate and courteous service, so a second Social Security representative monitors some telephone calls. We can provide general information by automated phone service 24 hours a day. And, remember, our website ***www.socialsecurity.gov*** is available to you anytime and anywhere!

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