



Securing today
and tomorrow

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

[SSA.gov](https://www.ssa.gov)



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 have disabilities.

To get SSI, you must meet one of these requirements:

- Be age 65 or older.
- Be totally or partially blind.
- 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 2022 is the same nationwide. It is:

- \$841 for one person.
- \$1,261 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.

Residence and citizenship

You must live in one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or Northern Mariana Islands (except for children with disabilities whose parents are military personnel and students temporarily abroad) to get SSI. If you're not a U.S. citizen, but you are lawfully residing in one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or Northern Mariana Islands, you still may be able to get SSI. For more information, read

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for Non-Citizens (Publication No. 05-11051).

Other benefits

To receive SSI, you must also apply for Social Security benefits and 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.

Applications for SNAP benefits are available at any Social Security office. For information about nutrition assistance programs that may be available to you, read *Nutrition Assistance Programs* (Publication No. 05-10100) and *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Facts* (Publication No. 05-10101). Visit www.fns.usda.gov/snap for information on how to apply.

How do you apply for SSI?

If you plan to apply for SSI, you can begin the application process and complete a large part of your application by visiting our website at www.ssa.gov/benefits/ssi.

You may be eligible to complete your SSI application online if you:

- Are between the ages of 18 and 65.
- Have never been married.

- Are a U.S. citizen residing in one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, or the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Haven't applied for or received SSI payments in the past.
- Are applying for Social Security Disability Insurance at the same time as your SSI claim.

Another way to start an application is by using our online tool to tell us that you are interested in applying for SSI and providing some basic information. You can find it at **www.ssa.gov/benefits/ssi/start.html**.

The online process takes about 5-10 minutes and no documentation is required. We will need information about you, and if applicable, the person you are assisting.

Information we need from the person interested in applying:

- Name.
- Date of birth.
- Social Security number.
- Mailing address.
- Phone number.
- Email address (optional).

If you are assisting another person, we also need your name, phone number, and email address (optional) in addition to the information above.

After you complete the online process, a Social Security representative schedules an appointment to help you apply for benefits. We will send an appointment

date and time by mail (and email — if provided), within 7-14 business days to the person interested in applying. In some cases, our representative may call to schedule the appointment.

You can also call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213** to set up an appointment with your local Social Security office. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you can call us at our TTY number, **1-800-325-0778**.

Contacting Social Security

The most convenient way to do business with us is to visit **www.ssa.gov** to get information and use our online services. There are several things you can do online: apply for benefits; request a replacement Social Security card (if you meet certain requirements); get useful information; find publications; and get answers to frequently asked questions.

Or, you can call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213** or at **1-800-325-0778** (TTY) if you're deaf or hard of hearing. We can answer your call from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., weekdays. We provide free interpreter services upon request.

You can also use our automated services via telephone, 24 hours a day, so you do not need to speak with a representative. **Wait times to speak to a representative are typically shorter Wednesdays through Fridays or later in the day.**

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