



Understanding Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Reporting Responsibilities

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Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Social Security administers the Supplemental Security Income program, which pays benefits to disabled adults and children who have limited income and resources.

SSI benefits also are payable to adults age 65 and older who do not have disabilities, if these individuals meet the financial limits.

People who have worked long enough, recently enough, may be able to receive Social Security benefits – such as disability or retirement – as well as SSI.



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SSDI vs. SSI

Social Security Disability Insurance	Supplemental Security Income
Payments come from the Social Security trust funds and are based on a person's earnings.	Payments come from the general treasury fund, NOT the Social Security trust funds. SSI payments are not based on a person's earnings.
An insurance that workers earn by paying Social Security taxes on their wages.	A needs-based public assistance program that does not require a person to have work history.
Pays benefits to disabled individuals who are unable to work, regardless of their income and resources.	Pays disabled individuals who are unable to work AND have limited income and resources.
People who are approved for (SSDI) benefits will receive Medicare. Generally two years after their date of entitlement.	People who are approved for (SSI) are entitlement to Medicaid. Medicaid eligibility starts the same months as SSI eligibility.



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REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a needs-based program for people who are disabled, blind or aged.

When you or your child receives SSI benefits you must report improvements in your health and any changes in your income, resources, and living arrangements to the Social Security Administration.

Reporting changes helps us pay you (or a family member) the correct amount of SSI benefits and may prevent you from being overpaid or allow us to pay you more SSI.



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WHAT THINGS MUST YOU REPORT TO SOCIAL SECURITY?

- change of address;
- change in living arrangements;
- change in earned and unearned income,



REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

- change in resources, if you are married and living together, and parents resources if applying for a child;
- death of spouse or anyone in your household;
- change in marital status



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REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

- change in citizenship or immigration status;
- change in help with living expenses from friends or relatives;
- eligibility for other benefits or payments;



REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

- admission to or discharge from an institution (such as a hospital, nursing home, or a correctional institution such as prison, jail, detention center, boot camp, etc.);
- change in school attendance, if you are under age 22;
- change in legal alien status;



REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

- sponsor (or sponsor's spouse) changes of income, resources, or living arrangement for aliens;
- leaving the U.S. for a full calendar month or for 30 consecutive days or more; or
- an unsatisfied felony or arrest warrant for escape from custody, flight to avoid prosecution or confinement, or flight-escape.



WHAT MUST YOU ALSO REPORT IF YOU ARE DISABLED?

- improvement in your medical condition;
- when you start or stop work, or have a change in pay or hours worked;
- any change in your Ticket to Work status; or
- any change in your work or Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) expenses.



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WHEN DO YOU NEED TO REPORT THESE CHANGES?

Report any changes that may affect your SSI as soon as possible and no later than **10 days** after the end of the month in which the change occurred.



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WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DO NOT REPORT CHANGES TIMELY AND ACCURATELY?

You may be underpaid and not receive the benefits due to you, as quickly as you otherwise could, if you do not report changes on time.

We may overpay you, and you may have to pay us back. We may apply a penalty that will reduce your SSI payment by \$25 to \$100 for each time you fail to report a change to us, or you report the change later than 10 days after the end of the month in which the change occurred.

If you knowingly make a statement which is false or misleading or knowingly fail to report important changes, we may impose a sanction against your payments. The first sanction period is a withholding of payments for 6 months. Subsequent sanction periods are for 12 months and then 24 months.



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HOW DO I REPORT THESE CHANGES?

You can report your change online at www.ssa.gov/online or by calling toll free at 1-800-772-1213.

Mail the information to your local Social Security office or in person if you prefer.

If you work and receive SSI, you should ask about our options to use the automated toll-free [SSI Telephone Wage Reporting Service](#) or the free [SSI Mobile Wage Reporting Smartphone app](#).



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HELPFUL PUBLICATIONS

- [What You Need to Know When You get Social Security Disability Benefits,](#)
- [What You Need to Know When You Get Supplemental Security Income](#)
- [What You Need to Know When You Get Retirement or Survivors Benefits](#)



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Q&A session



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