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# *Social Security Benefits Indian Country*



# SSA's Two Disability Programs

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## Social Security Disability (SSDI)

**Based on work**

- **Replaces part of lost wages**
- **Amount is based on wages**
- **Family benefit**
- **Medicare**

## Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

**Based on need**

- **Aged, blind or otherwise disabled**
- **Usually a U.S. Citizen**
- **Must live in the U.S.**
- **Limited income & resources**

# Two Disability Programs

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**SSDI**

**SSI**



**Same disability standard**

The diagram consists of two arrows pointing downwards from the words 'SSDI' and 'SSI' to a single point above the text 'Same disability standard'. The text 'Same disability standard' is underlined.

# Definition of Disability

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- **Inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of**
- **Any medically determinable impairment which**
- **Can be expected to result in death or**
- **Which has lasted or can be expected to last for not less than 12 months**

# Substantial Gainful Activity

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**SGA is the performance of significant and productive physical or mental work for pay or profit**

**SGA is average countable earnings over \$980 for non-blind individuals.**

**SGA for the blind is set at \$1,640 for the year 2009.**



# SSDI Eligibility Requirements

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- **Be Insured**
- **Be Disabled**
- **Also benefits for disabled widows and children**



# For SSDI, we will determine...

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- **Insured status**
- **Age**
- **Relationship**
- **All other non-medical aspects**



# SSDI

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- **Payment amount based on average lifetime earnings**
- **Waiting period to initially receive benefits: 5 full calendar months**
- **Medicare Qualifying Period: 24 months**
- **Benefits are subject to cessation if claimant returns to work**



# SSI Eligibility Requirements

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- **Have Little or No Resources**
- **Be Disabled**
- **Have limited income**
- **Be a US Citizen or  
Legal Resident**
- **Reside in the US**



# For SSI ....

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- **We will determine financial eligibility**
- **We will determine Resources**
- **We will determine Income**



# SSI

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- **Payment amount based on income, living arrangements, and state you live in**
- **No waiting period to initially receive benefits.**
- **In California, automatic entitlement to Medi-Cal.**
- **Benefits are not subject to cessation if you return to work**

# Reporting Responsibilities

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**When you get SSI YOU must report if:**

- **you move or change your address**
- **someone moves in/out your house**
- **your income changes**
- **you get help with living expenses**

**Reports should be made  
to SSA within 10 days**

# Where do you start?

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- **Complete the iClaim online at:**

<http://mwww.ba.ssa.gov/applyfordisability/>

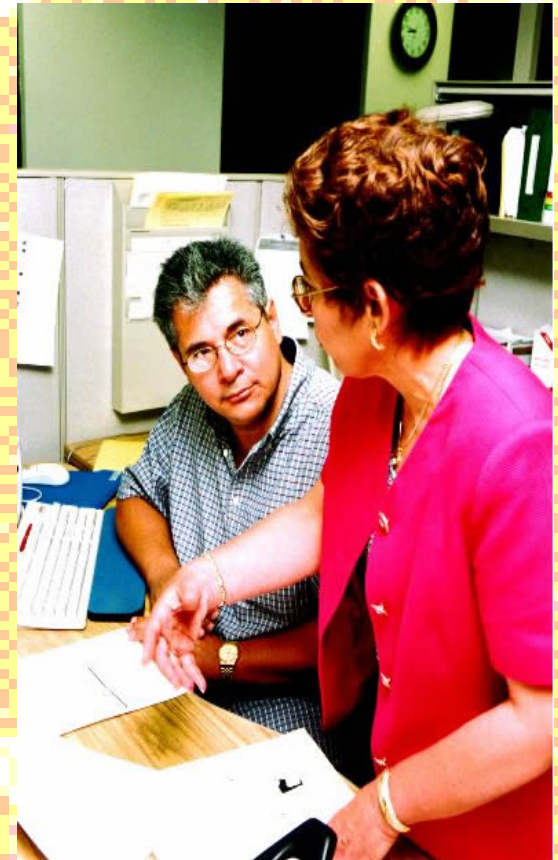
- **Complete the Adult Disability and Work History Report (i3368) at:**

<https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/i3368/main.html>



# What's next?

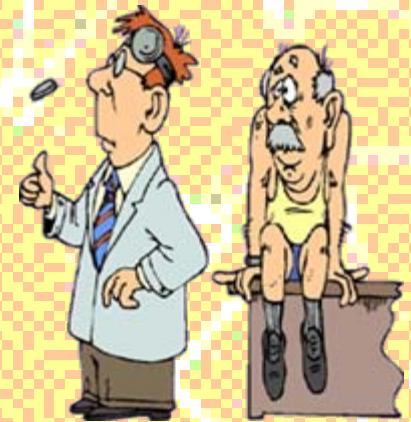
- **Disability report is electronically transmitted to SSA**
- **Sign and date the medical release forms**
- **Medical Examiners will make the medical decision**



# Determining Disability

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- **Is the person working?**
  - If he or she is earning over \$980 – claim is denied
- **Is the person’s medical condition “severe”?**
  - Does it limit his or her ability to work
  - Will it last one year
- **Is his or her medical condition on the List of impairments?**



# And then....

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- **Can the person do the work he or she did before?**
  - **Work history for the past 15 years**
  
- **Can he or she do any other type of work?**
  - **State agency evaluates your:**
    - **Medical condition**
    - **Age**
    - **Education**
    - **Past Work History**
    - **Transferable Skills**



# How long does the process take?

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- **Up to 3 – 5 months for a medical decision**
- **Terminal cases receive priority**
- **Immediate SSI payments for:**
  - **HIV Infection**
  - **Total blindness/deafness**
  - **Down Syndrome**
  - **Cerebral Palsy/Muscular Dystrophy**
  - **Amputation of a leg at the hip**
  - **ALS**
  - **Severe mental retardation (under age 7)**
  - **Low birth weight**



# Medical Reviews

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- **When Improvement is Expected – Diary is set**
- **When Improvement is Possible - 3 years**
- **When improvement is not Expected - 7 years**
- **When you become eligible  
for SSI under Sec 1619**

**If we find that the claimant  
Is no longer disabled -  
BENEFITS STOP**



# ***Social Security Online Services are.....***

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**Convenient**



**&**

**Secure**





# SOCIAL SECURITY ONLINE

THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE U.S. SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

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Retirement

Survivors

Disability

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Medicare

What You Can Do Online

Check the Status of Your Application

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Your Social Security Earnings Statement

Estimate Your Retirement Benefits

Already Receiving Benefits

Forms and Publications

Report Fraud, Waste or Abuse

Find a Social Security Office

Careers

Budget

Contact Us

Login



Watch a brief video about our website (less than two minutes)

## INFORMATION IF YOU ARE:

Applying Online for Retirement Benefits

Applying for Disability Benefits

Requesting a Social Security Card



Economic Recovery One-Time Payments  
CLICK HERE

Receive updates by email

## QUESTIONS?

Social Security Number: Card

Initials: R...

HEALTH PLAN

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Thursday Mar 12, 2009 11:03:51 Last updated March 9, 2009 3:00 PM



# *Online Services*

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- **Apply for retirement, spouse's or disability benefits**
- **Estimate your retirement benefits**
- **Use our benefit planners and calculators**
- **Request Medicare Card Replacement card**
- **Get help understanding your Social Security Statement or request one**

# Apply for benefits online....

## INFORMATION IF YOU ARE:

[Applying Online for Retirement Benefits](#)

[Applying for Disability Benefits](#)

[Requesting a Social Security Card](#)



**Retire Online**  
*It's so easy*



A VIDEO STARRING  
**PATTY DUKE**



**Economic Stimulus  
One-Time Payments**

[CLICK HERE](#)

Save  
a  
Trip!

# Disability Benefit Application

Report can be transferred to us electronically!

Continue an application that you already started:

Continue Application

## The Application Process...

Please select one of the following. Tell us information about the person completing this application.

- I am applying for myself.
- I am helping someone who wants to apply for benefits and is with me.
- I am helping someone who is not with me, and therefore can not sign the application at this time.

[Privacy Act Statement](#)

I have read the Privacy Act Statement

Apply For Benefits

<https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/iRRet/dib>

# SSI Application....

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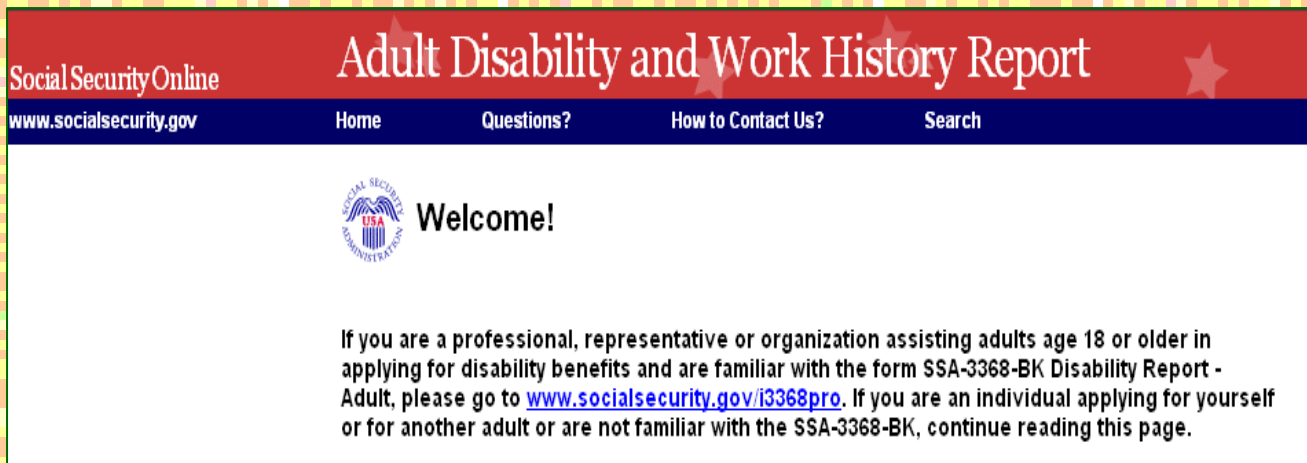
**You cannot file for SSI online**



# Adult Disability and Work History Report provides:

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- Security and privacy
- Step by step instructions and examples
- A process to collect information that applies to the claimant
- The ability to complete the report in multiple sessions



The screenshot shows the top portion of a web page. At the top left, it says "Social Security Online" and "www.socialsecurity.gov". The main title is "Adult Disability and Work History Report" in a large, white font on a dark red background. Below the title is a dark blue navigation bar with links for "Home", "Questions?", "How to Contact Us?", and "Search". The main content area is white and features the Social Security Administration logo on the left, followed by the text "Welcome!". Below this, there is a paragraph of text providing instructions for professionals and organizations versus individuals.

Social Security Online  
www.socialsecurity.gov

Home Questions? How to Contact Us? Search

 Welcome!

If you are a professional, representative or organization assisting adults age 18 or older in applying for disability benefits and are familiar with the form SSA-3368-BK Disability Report - Adult, please go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/i3368pro](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/i3368pro). If you are an individual applying for yourself or for another adult or are not familiar with the SSA-3368-BK, continue reading this page.

# ***Your Right To Appeal....***

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**It's Your Right - Exercise It!**



# *Questions?*

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# Public Affairs Specialists Contact Information

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