Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Insurance

September 12, 2015

Andrew Hardwick
Social Security Administration

How is SSI Different from Social Security ?

- SSI not based on work
- Limited income and resources
- Medicaid eligible
- 65, Blind or Disabled
- Funded by General Revenues

Limited Income

- Countable income must be below $733 per month for an individual
- Income must be below $1100 per month for couple

Limited Resources

- $2000 for an individual
- $3000 for a couple (even if only one member is eligible)

Resource Exclusions

- Home where the person lives
- Car, depending on use or value
- Burial plots for individual and family
- Burial funds up to $1500
- Life insurance ($1500 or less)

Living Arrangements

- Determine amount of SSI that a person will receive
- Factors like sharing of expenses, rental liability, separate purchase or preparation of food, institutionalization, home ownership can affect determination

Medicaid

- In most states eligibility for SSI means Medicaid coverage
- Medicaid is a federal/state program administered by the states
- Eligibility is made on a month to month basis
- Medicaid is not related to Medicare

SSI Work Incentives

- Impairment related work expenses
- Blind work expenses
- Plan for achieving self support (PASS)
- Continued Medicaid eligibility (1619 b)
- Student Earned Income Exclusion

Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS)

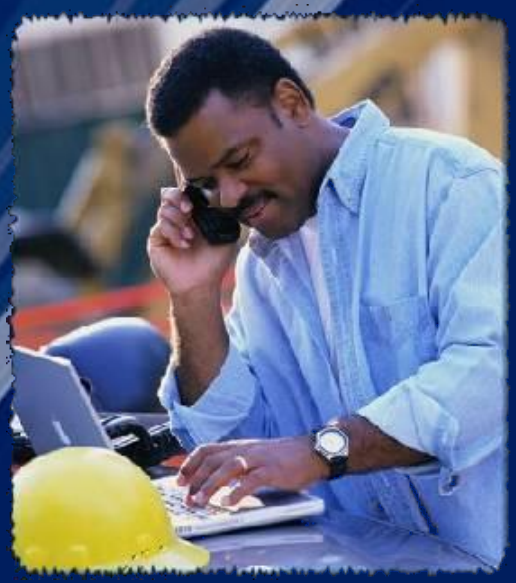
- Designed for applicant
- Specify work goal in writing
- Specific timetable
- Money/resources used to reach goal
- Needs SSA approval

Social Security Benefits

- Social Security payments based on wages of the worker
- No resource limits
- Can be received outside of the United States
- Three types: Retirement, Disability and Survivor

You Need to Work to Earn Social Security Credits

- Each $1,220 in earnings gives you one credit
- You can earn a maximum of 4 credits per year



Example: To earn 4 credits in 2015, you must earn at least $4,880. Earning 40 credits throughout your working life will qualify you for a retirement benefit.

Your Age When You Retire Affects Your Benefits

If You're a Worker and Retire

- At age 62, you get a lower monthly payment permanently
- At your full retirement age, you get your full benefit
- You get an even higher monthly payment if you work past your full retirement age

In Addition to the Retiree, Who Else Can Get Benefits?

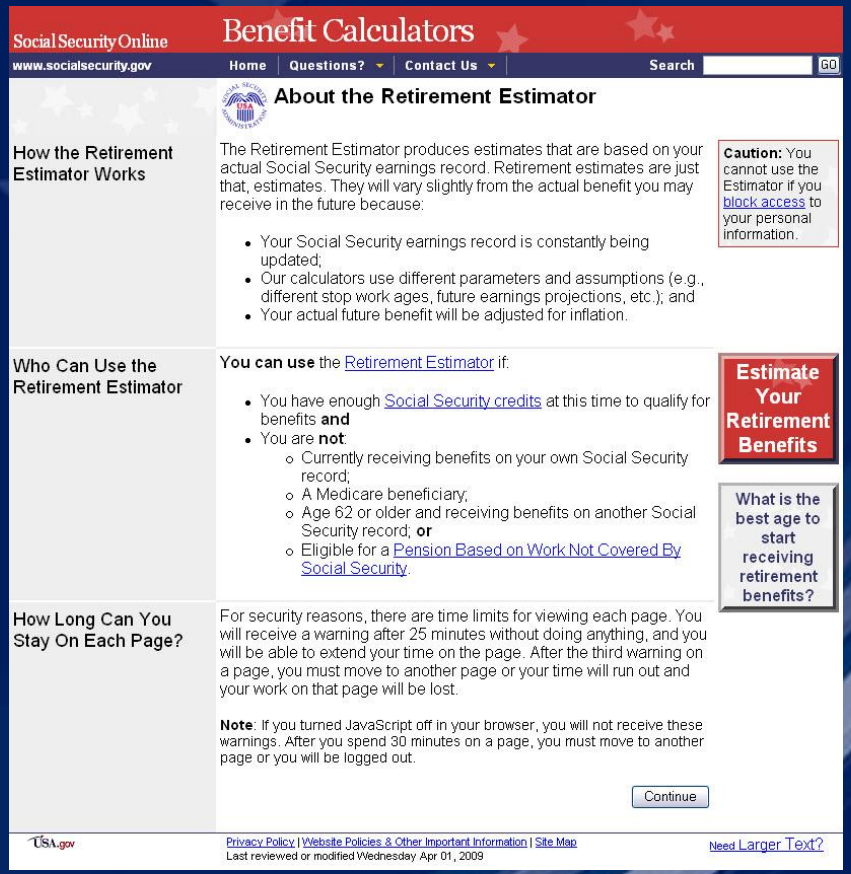
Your Spouse

- At age 62
- At any age if caring for child under 16 or disabled
- Divorced spouses may qualify

Your Child

- Not married under 18
  (under 19 if still in high school)
- Not married and disabled before age 22

Use the New Retirement Estimator



You can get estimates of your future Social Security retirement benefits using our new online Retirement Estimator.

- No manual keying of earnings is needed
- 'What if' scenarios are easy

It's convenient, secure and quick.
www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator

You Can Work & Still Receive Benefits

If You Are	You Can Make Up To	If You Make More, Some Benefits Will Be Withheld
Under Full Retirement Age	$15,720/yr. ($1,310/mo.)	$1 for every $2
The Year Full Retirement Age is Reached	$41,880/yr. ($3,490/mo.)	$1 for every $3
Month of Full Retirement Age and Above	No Limit	No Limit

Who Can Get Survivors Benefits?

Widow or Widower:

- Reduced benefits at age 60
- If disabled as early as age 50
- At any age if caring for child under 16 or disabled
- Divorced widows/widowers may qualify

Your Child if:

- Not married under age 18 (under 19 if still in high school)
- Not married and disabled before age 22

Social Security's Disability Definition:

A medical condition preventing substantial work for at least 12 months, or expected to result in death. The determination also considers age, education & work experience.

Who Can Get Disability Benefits?

Worker

- Must have paid into Social Security five out of last 10 years

Spouse

- At age 62
- At any age if caring for child under 16 or disabled
- Divorced spouses may qualify

Who Can Get Disability Benefits?

Child

- Not married under age 18
(under 19 if still in high school)
- Not married and disabled before age 22

Who Can Get Medicare?

65 & older

-or-

Receiving Social Security disability benefits at least 24 months

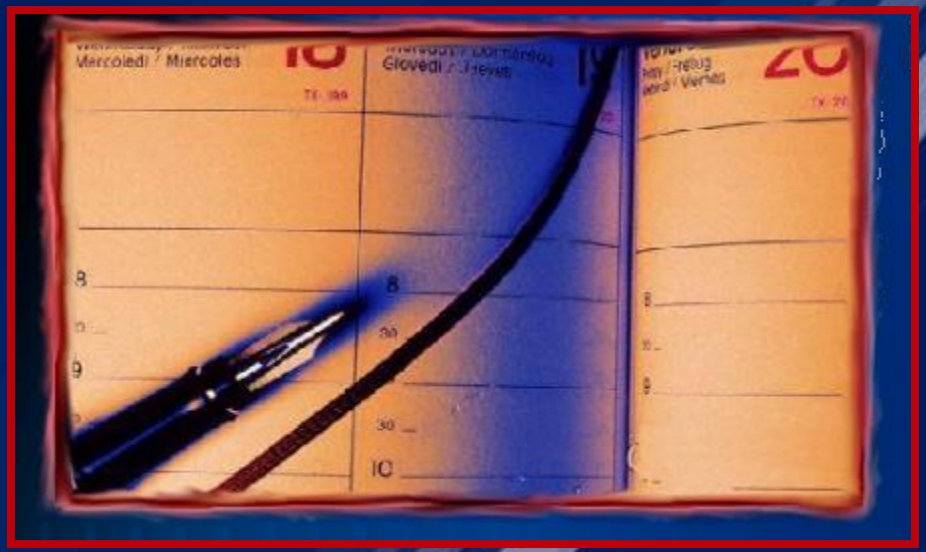
-or-

Permanent kidney failure

-or-

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

When Can I Sign Up for Medicare?



Medicare Enrollment Periods:

- Initial - at age 65
- Special - if still working
- General - January-March

Medicare Coverage

Part A Hospital Insurance

- Covers most inpatient hospital expenses.

  2015 Deductible $1,260

Part B Supplementary Medical Insurance

- Covers 80% doctor bills & other outpatient medical expenses after 1st $147 in approved charges.

  2015 Monthly Premium $104.90

Part D Medicare Prescription Drug Plan

- Covers a major portion of prescription drug costs for Medicare beneficiaries.

  2015 average Monthly Premium $31.00

For More Medicare Information

1-800-MEDICARE

(1-800-633-4227)

TTY 1-877-486-2048

www.medicare.gov

What Should You Do to Prepare for Your Retirement?

Get estimates of benefits using different retirement ages and wage estimates

www.socialsecurity.gov

Social Security's Online Services

- Retirement & Disability Applications
- Apply for Medicare
- Apply for Extra Help
- My Social Security Account
- Change of Address
- Medicare Card Replacements
- Request a Benefit Verification Letter
- Start or Change Direct Deposit