

When Can Someone Apply for Social Security Disability Benefits?

Q: When is a person eligible for social security disability?

A: You can apply for social security disability benefits when you can no longer work, due to your condition. To qualify, the condition must be expected to prevent you from working for at least a year. As it often takes months for an initial decision to be made regarding a claim, make sure to submit your application for social security disability insurance as early as you can. If you are awarded social security disability insurance, you may be eligible for retroactive payments. You are not eligible for your first benefits payment until the sixth month after the onset of your condition. You will not be awarded retroactive benefits for that period of time.

Q: How do I apply for social security disability insurance?

A: To submit a claim for social security disability, first contact your local Social Security office or apply online via the main Social Security web site. You will then be scheduled for an appointment with a representative assigned to your case. That interview can be done in person or via telephone. Your claims representative will be your point of contact through the application process and will assure that you fill out the appropriate paperwork. If you are unsure if you qualify for SSDI (social security disability insurance) or SSI (supplemental security income), your claims rep can help you. That representative can assist you with any submission for retroactive payments of social security disability, if applicable.

Q: Are there steps I can take that might help the chances that I will be awarded social security disability benefits?

A: A fair number of applications for social security benefits are not approved. You can, however, improve the likelihood that your application is approved. The first task is to simply make sure you applied correctly and completely. Keeping contact with the claims representative assigned to your case can help with this task. Having a supportive doctor who is willing to be your advocate can also help bolster your social security disability case. By providing a comprehensive statement regarding your condition, your doctor will give your claim a solid foundation. The third thing you can do is to make sure your most recent medical records have been submitted for your claim. Waiting for requested medical files is the number one reason most claims are delayed. Lastly, be cooperative, meet deadlines and check in on your file. Finally, make sure you do not miss deadlines for paperwork, keep in touch with your claim representative to know where your file is in the process and always be courteous (no matter how frustrated you may get at times.) Related Articles [Veterans lawyers](#) -- [Orlando social security attorney](#) -- [Disability attorney](#) -- [Tampa social security lawyers](#) -- [Attorneys for social security disability](#) --

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