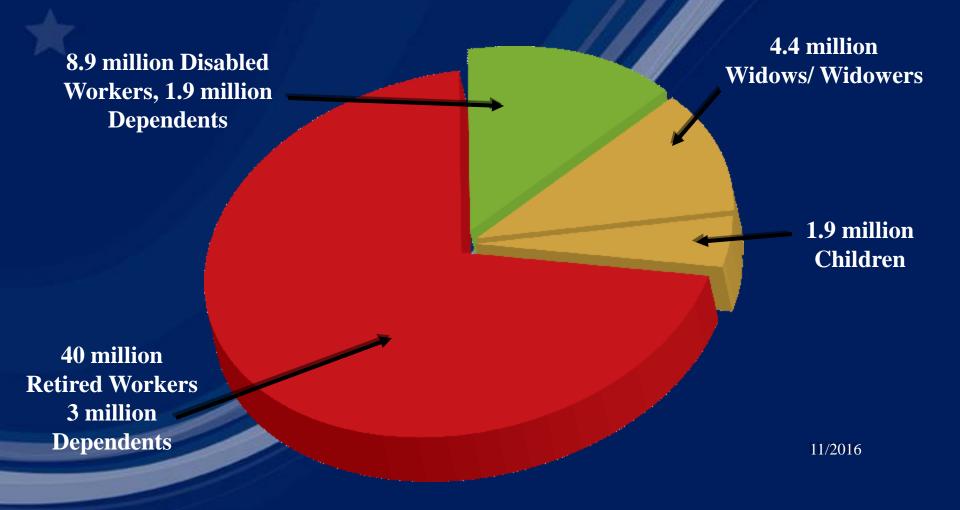


SOCIAL SECURITY

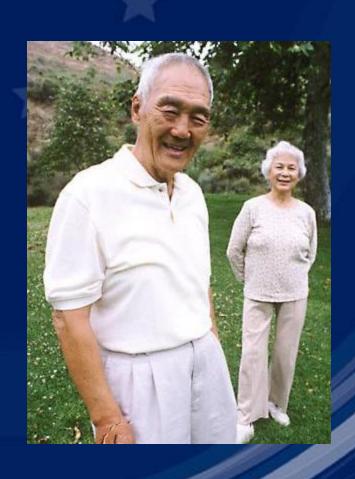


Who Receives Benefits from Social Security?

More than 60 Million People



Preparing for Retirement



Social Security replaces about 40% of pre- retirement earnings.

The average monthly Social Security retirement check in 2017 is \$1,360 (\$1,355 in 2016)

Social Security is the foundation on which to build retirement security; you'll also need pension & savings

A Foundation for Planning Your Future

OTHER INCOME

INSURANCE

INVESTMENTS

PENSIONS

IRA

Work

SAVINGS

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security Statement

"The Future's In Your Hands"

Prevent identity theft-

VERIFY

y number

Your Social Security Statement

Proceedially for Wanda Worker



October 1, 2002



See inside personal inic

What Social Security Means to You

my Social Security

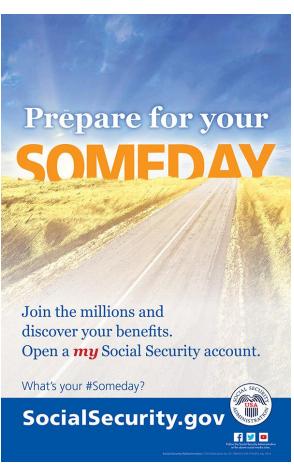
Your Online Account ... Your Control ... socialsecurity.gov/myaccount



my Social Security is an easy-to-access, easy-to-use portal to view and update some of your own Social Security information.

Who Can Open a my Social Security Account?

You must be at least 18 years old and have a:



- Valid E-mail address;
- Social Security number; and
- U.S. mailing address.

my Social Security Services

If you don't get benefits, you can—

View, save, and print your online Social Security Statement.

If you do get benefits you can—

- **▶** Get your benefit verification letter;
- Check your benefit and payment information and your earnings record;
- > Change your address and phone number; and
- > Start or change your direct deposit.

Your Online Social Security Statement Provides

- > Estimates of your retirement and disability benefits;
- Estimates of benefits for your family when you receive Social Security or die;
- ➤ A list of your lifetime earnings according to Social Security's records;
- ➤ The estimated Social Security and Medicare taxes you've paid;
- ➤ Information about qualifying and signing up for Medicare; and
- > A printable version of your Social Security Statement.

my Social Security

Getting Started

How to create a my Social Security account

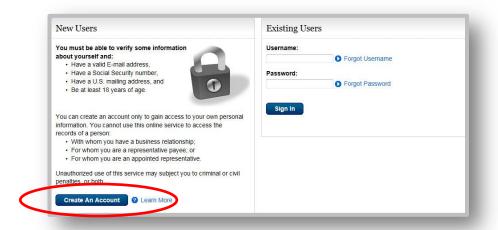
Step 1

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount and select: my Social Security



Step 2

Select "Create An Account."



my Social Security

Getting Started How to create a my Social Security account

Step 3

Provide some personal information to verify your identity.





Step 4

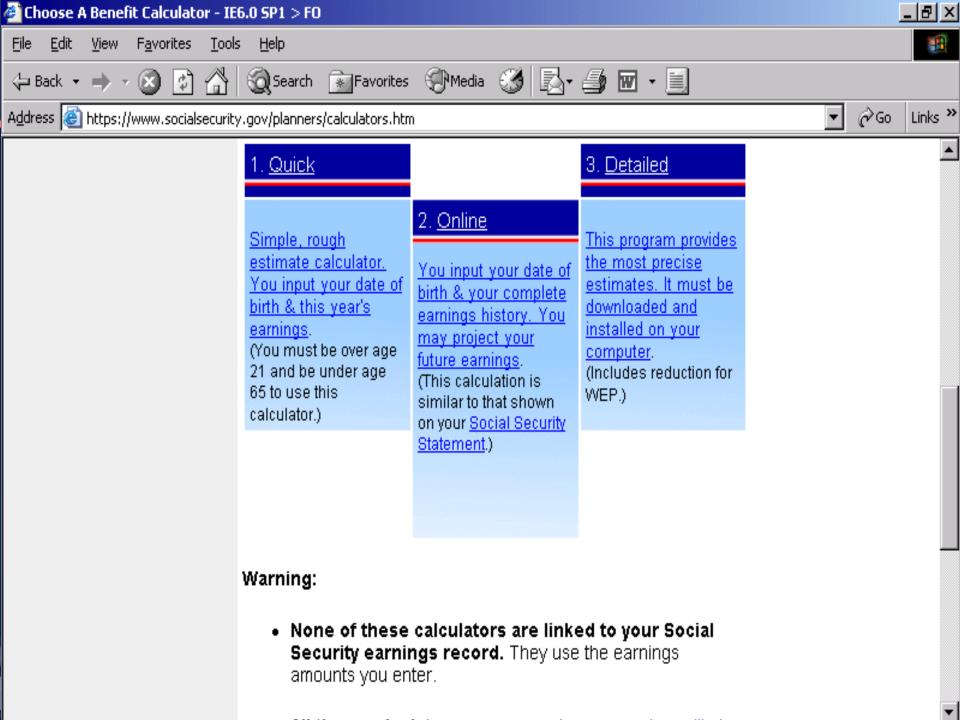
Choose a username and password to create your account.

my Social Security Provides Extra Security

You will need to enter a unique code we will send to your text-enabled cell phone each time you want to sign in, in addition to your username and password. Your text message rates still apply.

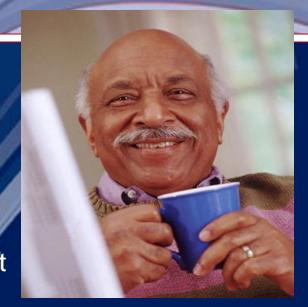
To add this feature, you will first have to provide us with one of the following to verify your identity:

- ➤ The last eight digits of your Visa, MasterCard, or Discover credit card;
- ➤ Information from your W-2 tax form;
- ➤ Information from your 1040 Schedule SE (self-employment) tax form; or
- ➤ Your direct deposit amount, if you receive Social Security benefits.



How to Qualify for Social Security Retirement

- Must be at least 62 years of age
- Earned at least 40 Social Security Credits
- In 2017, \$1,300 in earnings equals one credit



You can earn a maximum of 4 credits per calendar year

Example: To earn 4 credits in 2017, you must earn at least \$5,200.

Earning 40 credits throughout your working lifetime will qualify you for a retirement benefit.

Calculating the Retirement Benefit

 All earnings where Social Security taxes were paid are used to compute benefits.



- The highest 35 years of earnings are used in the calculation
- There is a limit in how much earnings are taxed for Social Security each year, and counted towards the calculation.
- In 2017, the maximum amount taxable for Social Security is \$127,200 (\$118,500 in 2016)
- Because of these maximum limits, a maximum monthly payment of \$2,687 can be yielded in 2017 (\$2,639 in 2016)



When Do Benefits Begin?

- As early as age 62 (reduction in benefits)
- At Full Retirement Age (no reduction-100%)

• Delayed retirement (increase in benefits up to age 70)

(Or any month in between these intervals)

Full Retirement Age

| Year of Birth | Full Retirement Age | | |
|---------------|---------------------|--|--|
| 1937 | 65 | | |
| 1938 | 65 & 2 months | | |
| 1939 | 65 & 4 months | | |
| 1940 | 65 & 6 months | | |
| 1941 | 65 & 8 months | | |
| 1942 | 65 & 10 months | | |
| 1943 – 1954 | 66 | | |
| 1955 | 66 & 2 months | | |
| 1956 | 66 & 4 months | | |
| 1957 | 66 & 6 months | | |
| 1958 | 66 & 8 months | | |
| 1959 | 66 & 10 months | | |
| 1960 & later | 67 | | |



No matter what your full retirement age is, you may start receiving benefits as early as age 62.

| Year of Birth Note: Persons born on January 1 of any year should refer to the previous year. | Full Retirement Age | Age 62 Reduction Months | Monthly% Reduction* | Total % Reduction* |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1937 or earlier | 65 | 36 | .555 | 20.00 |
| 1938 | 65 and 2 months | 38 | .548 | 20.83 |
| 1939 | 65 and 4 months | 40 | .541 | 21.67 |
| 1940 | 65 and 6 months | 42 | .535 | 2250 |
| 1941 | 65 and 8 months | 44 | .530 | 23.33 |
| 1942 | 65 and 10 months | 46 | .525 | 24.17 |
| 19431954 | 66 | 48 | .520 | 25.00 |
| 1955 | 66 and 2 months | 50 | .516 | 2584 |
| 1956 | 66 and 4 months | 52 | .512 | 26.66 |
| 1957 | 66 and 6 months | 54 | .509 | 27.50 |
| 1958 | 66 and 8 months | 56 | .505 | 2833 |
| 1959 | 66 and 10 months | 58 | .502 | 29.17 |
| 1960 and later | 67 | 60 | .500 | 30.00 |

What if I Take My Benefits Early? (Before the Full Retirement Age)

Benefits are PERMANENTLY reduced if payments are collected before your Full Retirement Age

You Can Work & Still Receive Benefits



2017

You Can Make

\$16,920 (\$1,410/mo.)

\$44,880 (\$3,740/mo.)

Up To

2017 Calendar Year

Under Full Retirement Age

Months Before
Full Retirement Age

Month of Full Retirement Age & Above

If You Make More, Some Benefits Will Be Withheld

\$1 for every \$2

\$1 for every \$3

No Limit

What Income Counts Toward the Limit



- Gross wages from work or net self employment
- Pensions, IRA's, 401k, Interest, Dividends, Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds, Unemployment, and other Investment Income do not count towards this limit

Benefits for Your Family When You Retire

Your Spouse

- **At age 62**
- At any age if caring for child under 16 or disabled
- Divorced spouses may qualify
 - age 62, married 10 years to the worker, & currently unmarried
 - worker can be re-married & does not have to be receiving benefits yet

Your Child

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

50%

50%

Benefits for Your Family When You Retire

- Each eligible family member receives 50% of your unreduced benefit, in addition to your payment.
- However there is a Family Maximum payable on each Social Security record.
- Benefits payable to a divorced spouse do not reduce your payment or count against your family limit.
- A spouse or divorced spouse who is eligible on their own record will receive their own benefit or 50% of yours, whichever is greater, but NOT both.
- Separate work limits will apply for each eligible family member collecting on your record.

Divorced?

 If married 10 years to former spouse and not currently married, benefits can be received from ex-spouse unless own benefit is higher

(Widows and ex-widows can re-marry after age 60)

- Does not matter if the worker has remarried
- Worker's remarriage does not reduce ex-spouse's benefits or the new spouse's benefits



Survivor Benefits for Your Family

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

If Your Child Is:

75%

71.5%-100%

- 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 or combination of impairments 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
- For younger workers, under age 31 less work is required

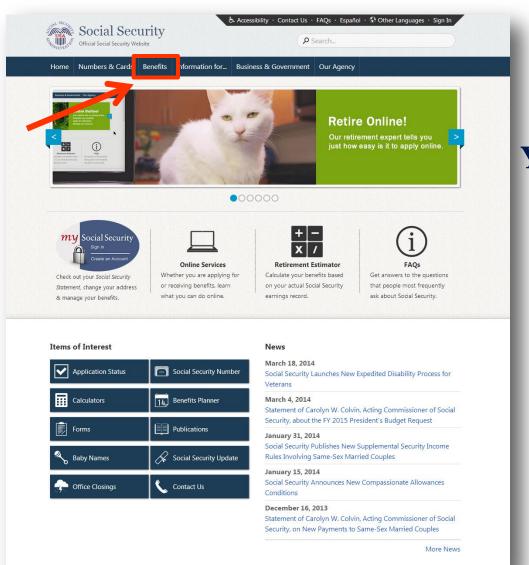


Applying Online for Disability Benefits



- Social Security offers an online application for adults to apply for disability benefits.
- > It's the most convenient way to apply.
- > www.socialsecurity.gov/applyforbenefits

Applying for Disability Benefits



You can apply online for Disability Benefits by visiting

www.socialsecurity.gov and clicking "Benefits"

What If I Receive a Pension from a Job Where I Did Not Pay Social Security?

Your Social Security benefits can be reduced:

- Windfall Elimination Provision and/or
 - Government Pension Offset

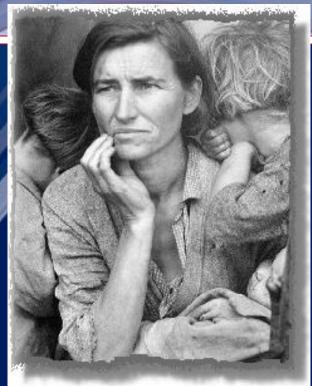






Why a Reduction?

- Social Security is a historic national social program
- In times of loss of income due to retirement, a disability or a death in the family, Social Security replaces the loss of income and raises the standard of living of lower income workers.



- The benefit formula factors in a higher rate of return for lower income workers. (See Comparison Chart on later slide)
- The average retirement payment of a worker contributing in the Social Security system for 35 work years is \$1,360/month and a maximum of \$2,687/month in 2017. (and with probability of no company pension)

Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP)

- You have earned 40 Social Security credits and qualify for benefits on your <u>own</u> Social Security record.
- If any part of your government pension is based on work where you were <u>not</u> required to pay the Social Security tax (also known as a "non-covered" pension)
- A "weighted" formula is used to calculate benefits instead of the standard formula, but you will <u>always</u> receive a payment
- The weighted formula is only applied to the Social Security payment if you are receiving <u>both</u> the non-covered pension and Social Security benefits.



The "Weighted" Formula

- Social Security benefits are calculated using 35 highest years of earnings (adjusted for inflation) in your work history.
- The total is divided by 420
 (35 years x 12 months) to compute the average monthly amount
- The "weighted" formula is applied to derive the full unreduced monthly Social Security payment instead of using the regular formula

The "Weighted" Formula for those turning 62 in 2017

Using the Average Monthly Amount

Standard Computation

WEP Computation

90% of first \$885

40% of first \$885

32% of next \$5,336

32% of next \$5,336

15% of remainder

15% of remainder

Maximum Difference is 50% of \$885= \$442.50

Example

- SSA Work History: SSA Work History (Govt. Employee)
 20 years of \$10,000
 10 years of \$20,000
 - 15 years of \$0.00 25 years of \$0.00
 - 35 total years = \$200,000 35 years of \$200,000
- > \$200,000 divided by 420 months = \$476/month
- ► If age 62 in 2016: first tier of computation is 90% up to \$885 90% of \$476 = \$428/month (standard computation)

VS.

40% of \$476 = \$190/month (with non-covered pension)

Note: Reduction is never more than \$442.50 for those turning 62 in 2017

Exceptions to the Reduction of the "Weighted" Formula

- Federal worker first hired after December 1st, 1983 -OR-
- Employed by a nonprofit organization exempt from Social Security on December 1st, 1983 -OR-
- Your only pension is based on railroad employment -OR-
- Your only work where you did not pay Social Security was before 1957 -OR-
- You have earned 30 or more "substantial" years of Social Security earnings (see next chart)

Substantial Years of Work Covered Under Social Security

What Qualifies as Substantial Earnings

1979

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984 1985

1986

\$4,725

\$5,100

\$5,550

\$6,075

\$6,675

\$7,050

\$7,425

\$7,875

| \$ 900 | 1987 | \$8,175 | 2008 | \$18,975 |
|---------|--|---|--------|----------|
| \$ 900 | 1988 | \$8,400 | 2009 | \$19,800 |
| \$1,050 | 1989 | \$8,925 | 2010 | \$19,800 |
| \$1,200 | 1990 | \$9,525 | 2011 | \$19.800 |
| \$1,650 | 1991 | \$9,900 | 2012 | \$20,475 |
| \$1,950 | 1992 | \$10,350 | 2013 | \$21,075 |
| \$2,250 | 1993 | \$10,725 | 2014 | \$21,750 |
| \$2,700 | 1994 | \$11,250 | 2015 | \$22,050 |
| \$3,300 | 1995 | \$11,325 | 2016 | \$22,050 |
| \$3,525 | 1996 | \$11,625 | 2017 | \$23,625 |
| \$3,825 | 1997 | \$12,150 | | |
| \$4,125 | 1998 | \$12,675 | / // | |
| \$4,425 | 1999 | \$13,425 | 11 | |
| | \$ 900 \$1,050 \$1,200 \$1,650 \$1,950 \$2,250 \$2,700 \$3,300 \$3,525 \$3,825 \$4,125 | \$ 900 1988 \$1,050 1989 \$1,200 1990 \$1,650 1991 \$1,950 1992 \$2,250 1993 \$2,700 1994 \$3,300 1995 \$3,525 1996 \$3,825 1997 \$4,125 1998 | \$ 900 | \$ 900 |

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2006

2007

\$14,175

\$14,925

\$15,750

\$16,125

\$16,275

\$17,475

\$18,150

2005 \$16,725

Total # of Years of Substantial Percentage **Earnings** used in formula 90 percent 30 or more 29 85 percent 28 80 percent 27 75 percent 70 percent 26 25 65 percent 24 60 percent 23 55 percent 22 50 percent 21 45 percent 40 percent 20 or less

Government Pension Offset (GPO)

- If you receive a government pension based on <u>your</u> <u>own</u> work where Social Security was not paid
- Benefits filed as a spouse on your spouse's record may be reduced to zero.
- Social Security benefits filed as a spouse or divorced spouse, and death payments as a widow or divorced widow may be reduced to zero.

How Much is the Reduction?

Two-thirds of the amount of the Government pension



Example:

\$1,200 Government pension 2/3 =\$800

Social Security Spouse Benefits =\$600

No cash benefit payable as a spouse

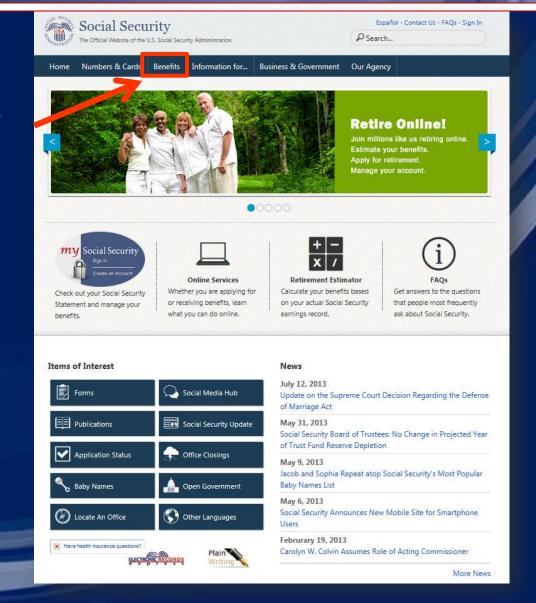
WEP vs. GPO

- WEP reduces benefits on your <u>own</u> Social Security record if you receive a pension where you worked and did not pay Social Security.
 (Reduced, but will always receive a payment)
- GPO reduces any benefits you may be eligible for on your spouse's Social Security record if you receive a pension where you worked and did not pay Social Security.
 - (Reduced by two thirds of the government pension with possibility of no payment due)

Common Exceptions

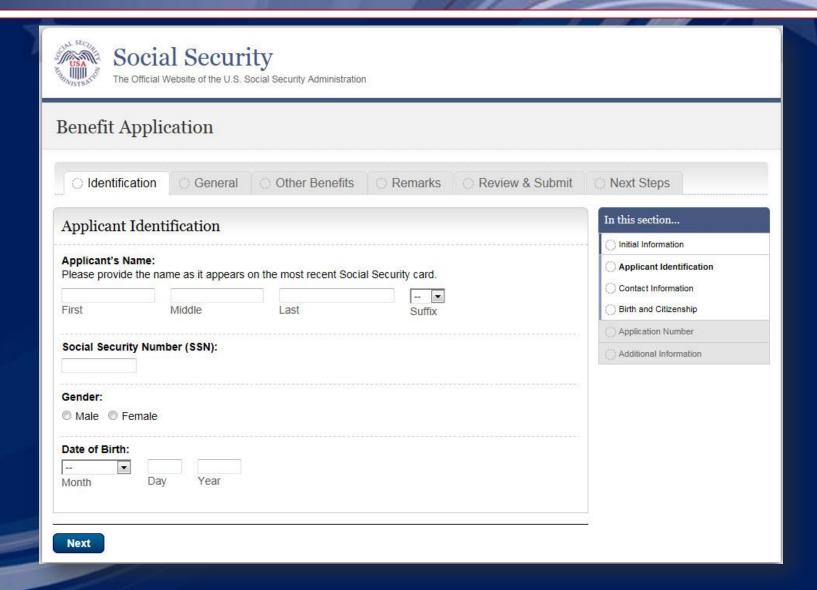
- PERS, STRS, OPM pension is based on work where <u>all</u> earnings were subject to Social Security tax.
- WEP and GPO reductions do not apply to Social Security benefits until the "non-covered" pension is received.
- 30 years of "substantial" Social Security earnings
- Receipt of a non-covered pension (PERS, STRS, OPM) as a spouse or survivor is <u>not</u> subject to WEP or GPO because the non-covered pension is not based on <u>their own work.</u>

Applying for Retirement Benefits



www.socialsecurity.
gov

Applying for Retirement Benefits



Who is affected?

Why is a different formula used?

How does it work?

Are there exceptions?

Is there a guarantee provision for those with low pensions?

More...

Government Pension Offset (GPO)

I receive a government pension. Will I receive any Social Security on my spouse's record?

How much are Social Security benefits offset?

Why are Social Security benefits offset?

Who is exempt from the offset?

What about Medicare?

Can I still get benefits on my own record?

More...

Information for Government Employees



Some <u>Federal employees</u> and <u>employees of State or local government</u> <u>agencies</u> may be eligible for pensions that are based on earnings **not** covered by Social Security.

If you didn't pay Social Security taxes on your government earnings **and** you are eligible for Social Security benefits, the formula used to figure your benefit amount may be modified, giving you a lower Social Security benefit

If you are eligible for Social Security benefits on your own record:

- The <u>Windfall Elimination Provision</u> (WEP) fact sheet (En Español) explains the formula Social Security may use to modify your benefit amount.
- How the Windfall Elimination Provision Can Affect Your Social Security
 <u>Benefit</u> provides a chart to show how your benefit amount changes
 based on your years of substantial earnings and the year you became
 eligible for benefits.
- Use the <u>WEP Online Calculator</u> to calculate your estimated retirement or disability benefits if you are affected by the WEP.

Your annual Social Security Statement does not reflect as, the ents based on pensions from work not covered by Social Security.

Note: Some government pensions do not affect your benefit amount when you apply on your own record.

Click Here to recalculate your benefits

If you are eligible for Social Security benefits on your spouse's record:

 The <u>Government Pension Offset</u> (GPO) fact sheet (En Español) explains how your pension may affect your benefit and sever spouse's record.

Note: Some government pensions do not affect your benefit on your spouse's record.

 Use the <u>GPO Online Calculator</u> to calculate your estimated benefits as a spouse, widow or widower if you are affected by the GPO.

Things You Can Do Online

Request your Social Security Statement

Decide when to retire

Calculate your estimated benefits if you are

- affected by WEP
- · affected by GPO

offset apply to your Social Security retirement

on

Does the pension offset apply to your Social Security spousal

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)

Medicare Coverage

Part A: Hospital Insurance

- Covers most inpatient hospital expenses
- No monthly premium with 40 SS or Medicare credits
- 2017 Deductible: \$1,316 for up to 60 days in the hospital \$329* daily deductible for days 61 through 90 \$658* daily deductible for days 91 through 150 (*without an employer health plan or Medi-gap policy)

Part B: Supplementary Medical Insurance

- Covers 80% doctor bills & other outpatient medical expenses after \$183 in approved charges.
- 2017 Monthly Premium \$134*

Part D: Medicare Prescription Drug Plan

- Covers a major portion of prescription drug costs for Medicare beneficiaries.
- 2017 average Monthly Premium \$72
- Annual deductible and co-payments vary by plan

www.medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE

New Part B Premiums in 2017

Medicare beneficiaries with income greater than \$85,000 (\$170,000/couple)
 Part B Premiums in 2017 will be calculated on a sliding scale based on the modified adjusted gross income reported on IRS tax returns

```
    Under $85,000 ($170,000/couple): Part B premium $134.00 $85,000-$107,000 ($170,000-$214,000/couple): Part B premium $187.50 $107,000-$160,000 ($214,000-$320,000/couple): Part B premium $267.90 $160,000-$214,000 ($320,000-$428,000/couple): Part B premium $348.30 Over $214,000 ($428,000/couple): Part B premium $428.60
```

- Automated data from IRS used to calculate the premium
- Income from two years prior will be used to compute the premium (i.e. modified adjusted gross income for 2015 used to calculate the premium in 2017)
- Appeals available if income has changed due to divorce, death of a spouse, retirement, natural disaster, etc.

When Can I Sign Up for Medicare Part B?



Part B Medicare Enrollment Periods:

- Initial Enrollment 3 months before and after age 65
- Special Enrollment if still working or spouse is still working
- General Enrollment* January-March; becomes effective July

*10% Penalty for every 12 months of delayed filing of Part B

The Special Enrollment Period

- You can sign up for Part B at any time if you are:
- still working and have health insurance through your employer
 OR
- your spouse is still working and you have health coverage with their employer

Note: A retiree health plan does not count!

- > Part B coverage will begin the month after enrollment.
- If employment terminates, you have up to 7 months after the month of termination to sign up for Part B. (8 months total)
- After 7 months have passed, you no longer qualify for Special Enrollment.

New Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Part D)

- Must have Medicare Part A or Part B
- Initial Enrollment: age 65
- Annual Enrollment Period: October 15–December 7
- Voluntary Plan; do NOT need a Part D plan if already have a prescription drug plan equal or better than Part D
- However 1% monthly premium increase applies for delayed filing if beneficiary does not have a prescription drug plan equal or better than Part D.
- Extra Help available for limited income beneficiaries to help pay Part D premium, deductibles and copayments.

Benefits Can Be Taxable

Individual Tax Return

- \$25,000 to \$34,00050% of Social Security Benefits are Taxable
- Over \$34,00085% of Social Security Benefits are Taxable

Married Filing a Joint Tax Return

- > \$32,000 to \$44,000 50% of Benefits are Taxable
- > Over \$44,000 85% of Benefits are Taxable



What Will You Need When Applying for Your Social Security Benefits?

- **✓** Social Security Number for each applicant
- ✓ Proof of Age and Citizenship/Lawful Presence (certified copy-not a photocopy)
- **✓** Latest W-2 or Self-Employment Tax return
- **✓** Bank information for Direct Deposit
- **✓** Information about Marriages/Divorces
- ✓ Information about Military or Railroad Service To order a DD 214 visit

http://vetrecs.archives.gov

Social Security Online

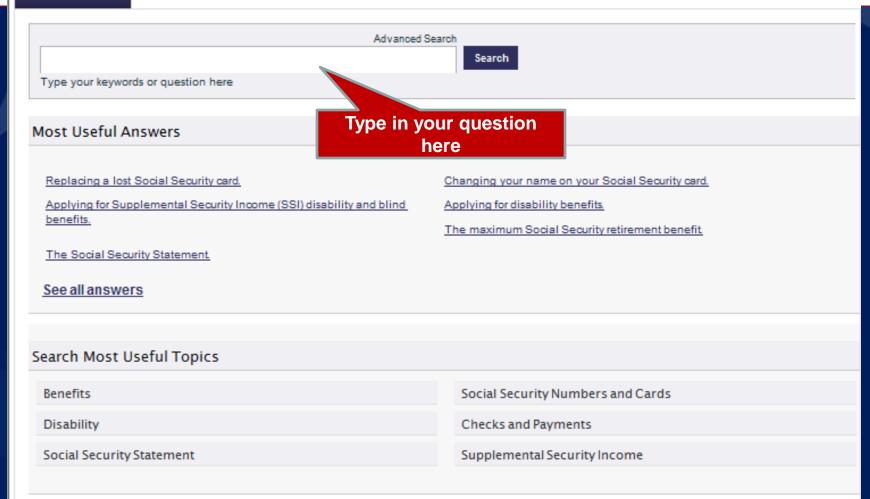
Find an Answer to Your Question

www.socialsecurity.gov

Are you an employer? See answers to your W-2 Reporting questions.

Log In | Sign Up

Answer Home



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Benefits

Information for...

Business & Government

Our Agency





Apply for Retirement



Apply for Disability



Top 10 Baby Names of 2015 Have arrived!



Change of Address



my Social Security

Check out your Social Security Statement, change your address & manage your benefits.



Online Services

Whether you are applying for or receiving benefits, learn what you can do online.



Retirement Estimator

Calculate your benefits based on your actual Social Security earnings record.



FAQs

Get answers to frequently asked questions about Social Security.

Items of Interest











Forms





Publications



Check Application Status



Social Security Statement



Closings & Emergencies

in Every Community

Across America

Disability Insurance Facts Need Total DI Beneficiaries Social Security Supports Workers and Their Families

information about benefits for same-sex couples?









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1-800-772-1213

www.socialsecurity.gov