

Social Security Administration

Important Facts About Your Supplemental Security Income

Date:

Why We're Sending You The Enclosed Form

We must regularly review the cases of people who get Supplemental Security Income (SSI). We check to be sure that each person is still eligible and that we are sending the right amount of SSI money.

As part of your review, we need you to answer the questions on the enclosed form. It's called **Statement for Determining Continuing Eligibility For Supplemental Security Income Payments, SSA-8202-BK**. If you have a representative payee (that's someone who receives your SSI money for you), he or she must complete the form SSA-8202-BK.

Below, we tell you how to complete the form and what to do if you need help. We also go over some other important facts. We explain about:

- Things you need to report to us.
- Special ways we can send letters to blind recipients who get SSI.
- Medicaid and computer matching.

How To Complete Form SSA-8202-BK

Here are some things to remember when you complete the form SSA-8202-BK:

- Answer all questions on the form.
- Sign your name in the space marked **Your Signature**. If both you and your husband or wife get SSI, he or she should sign in the space marked **Spouse's Signature**.
- If you are a **representative payee** and are completing the SSA-8202-BK for someone who gets SSI, answer the questions as if that person were completing the form. Sign your name in the space marked **Representative Payee**.
- Check the address that we have for you on page 1 of the SSA-8202-BK. If it is wrong, let us know.

If you have any questions or need help completing the SSA-8202-BK, CALL US, TOLL FREE, AT 1-800-772-1213.

When To Return The Form

Please return your completed, signed SSA-8202-F to us in the enclosed envelope within **30 days** from the date at the top of page 1 of these instructions.

If We Don't Hear From You

Your SSI Payments will stop if:

- You do not return the completed SSA-8202-~~BK~~ to us;
- OR
- You do not contact us to let us know you are having problems completing the form.

Before we stop payments, we will send you a letter. The letter will explain our action and what to do if you think we are wrong.

Things You Need To Report

You **must report** changes to us that affect your SSI. The easiest way to report a change is to call us, **toll free, at 1-800-772-1213**. You must tell us about changes within 10 days after the month they happen. A list of the things you must report is on page 6 of the SSA-8202-~~BK~~.

Important Information About Medicaid

If you have Medicaid or you are filing for Medicaid, the following information about assets is important to you.

WHAT ARE ASSETS FOR MEDICAID?

Your State looks at all your assets when it decides if you can get Medicaid. Your assets can include:

- Money you or your spouse get from wages or self-employment;
- Any other money you or your spouse get, such as money from Social Security or friends or relatives;
- Any free food, clothing or shelter you or your spouse get;
- Things you or your spouse own, like bank accounts or real estate;
- Money or property you, your spouse, or someone acting for you placed in a trust; and
- Any money or property which you and your spouse have a right to get but don't get because of something:

* You or your spouse did, or

* Someone else did who was acting for you or at your request.

Medicaid may count some things as assets that we do not count for SSI. For example, Medicaid may count things you give away or sell for less than they are worth; these do not count for SSI.

**Important Information
About Medicaid is
Continued on Page 3**

**Important Information
About Medicaid**
(continued)

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GIVE AWAY OR SELL AN
ASSET**

Medicaid may not pay for certain health care for you for a period of time if you, your spouse, or someone else takes an asset of yours and gives it away or sells it for less than what it is worth. Medicaid also may not pay for certain health care if your assets are used to set up a trust that makes payments to someone else or cannot make payments to you or for your benefit.

This rule usually applies to people in nursing homes and people in other places, such as, hospitals that give nursing services like those in nursing homes. This rule can also apply to people who:

- Get care at home or in their community under special programs called waivers, or
- Will soon need these services.

At times this rule also applies to people who are getting other kinds of services, such as, home health care, help with activities of daily living, or other forms of long-term care.

REPORTING TO YOUR STATE MEDICAID AGENCY

Your State Medicaid agency uses these rules about assets to decide if you can get Medicaid. SSA will give your State Medicaid agency information SSA has about any assets you may have given away. You also must tell your State Medicaid agency any time you give away or sell an asset or set up a trust.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MEDICAID

If you have any questions about Medicaid, including how your assets can affect coverage, please contact the State or local welfare, public health, or social services agency that handles Medicaid. They can answer your questions about how your assets affect your Medicaid.

**A Special Notice For
Blind Recipients**

If you get SSI because you are blind, you may choose a special way to receive letters explaining decisions we make about your SSI. Instead of getting your letters by regular mail, you may choose to have us:

- Telephone you and read your letters to you. If you choose this, we will also keep sending you letters through the regular mail, OR
- Send your letters by certified mail.

You can choose or change the way you receive our letters at any time. Just call us, toll free, at 1-800-772-1213.

**Facts About Computer
Matching Programs**

We may use the information you give us when we match records by computer. Matching programs compare our records with those of other Federal, State, or local government agencies. Many agencies may use matching programs to find or prove that a person qualifies for benefits paid by the Federal Government. The law allows us to do this even if you do not agree to it. Explanations about these and other reasons why information you provide us may be used or given out are available in Social Security offices. If you want to learn more about this, contact any Social Security office.

**The Paperwork
Reduction Act of 1995**

Please Note the following:

- *See attached updated PRA which will be inserted at next reprint.*
- *In addition SSA will update the forms construction designation from F-6 to BK.*

UPDATED PRA STATEMENT SSA-8202-BK

The following revised PRA Statement will be inserted into the revised form at its scheduled reprinting:

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement - This information collection meets the requirements of 44 U.S.C. § 3507, as amended by section 2 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. You do not need to answer these questions unless we display a valid Office of Management and Budget control number. We estimate that it will take about 21 minutes to read the instructions, gather the facts, and answer the questions. **SEND OR BRING THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR LOCAL SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE.** The office is listed under U. S. Government agencies in your telephone directory or you may call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. *You may send comments on our time estimate above to: SSA, 6401 Security Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401. Send only comments relating to our time estimate to this address, not the completed form.*