

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**. 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.

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:

- Changes you need to report to us.
- Special ways we can send letters to blind people who get SSI.
- Food stamps, Medicaid, and computer matching.

How To Complete Form SSA-8202

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

- Answer all the questions on **both sides** of the form.
- Sign your name in the space marked **Your Signature** on page 2 of the SSA-8202. If both you and your husband or wife get SSI, he/she should sign in the space marked **Spouse's Signature**.
- If you are a representative payee and are completing the SSA-8202 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. If it's wrong, let us know.

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

When To Return The Form

Please return your completed SSA-8202 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 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 To Us

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**. If any changes that we list below apply to you, call us right away.

- You move.
- You get married, divorced, separated, or have your marriage annulled.
- Anyone moves into or out of the place where you live. Also tell us about births and deaths of people who live with you.
- You (or your spouse living with you) start working or the amount or your earnings changes.
- Someone starts or stops helping you pay your bills.
- The amount of other checks or income you (or your spouse living with you) receive goes up or down (pensions, worker's or unemployment compensation, etc.).
- The value of your resources (things you own) when added together goes over \$2,000 (\$3,000 if you are married and living with your spouse).
- You (or your spouse) leave the place where you live for a full calendar month. For example: You enter a hospital, nursing home, jail, or visit a relative and stay throughout a full calendar month.
- You are released from a hospital, nursing home, jail or other institution.
- You leave the U.S. for more than 30 days in a row. (The U.S. includes the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands.)
- You are getting SSI because you are disabled or blind and your health problem improves.

A Special Notice For The Blind

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 notices to you. If you choose this, we will also keep sending you letters through the regular mail, OR
- Send your notices 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.

Important Facts About Food Stamps

If you want to find out if you can get food stamps:

- Call or visit your local food stamp office; OR
- Call, **toll free, 1-800-555-1212** (except in Alaska or Hawaii) to see if your State has a food stamp hotline phone number. The hotline numbers will be toll free, too.

You **must** have a personal interview when you apply for food stamps. So, if you can't go to the food stamp office and you can't get someone to apply for you, the food stamp office will interview you by phone and send someone to your home.

You may apply for food stamps through the mail. However, you still must have a personal interview with someone from the food stamp office.

You may also apply for food stamps at your local Social Security office if all the people who live and eat with you have applied for or receive SSI.

Important Facts About Medicaid

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

What Are Resources for Medicaid?

Resources are the things that you own such as cash, stocks, bank accounts, certain types of life insurance, a home and other buildings or land.

What Happens When You Give Away or Sell Resources?

You may not be eligible to receive nursing home services under Medicaid for up to 30 months, IF:

- You give away a resource or sell it for less than it is worth.

AND

- You receive nursing home services through a home or community-based services program.

OR

- You receive services in a nursing home.

Reporting To Your State Medicaid Agency

Your State Medicaid agency applies this rule about resources to decide if Medicaid coverage is affected. We give them information about your resources, but you must report to your State Medicaid agency any time you give away or sell a resource.

If You Have Questions About Medicaid

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

The Time It Takes To Complete The SSA-8202

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.