# Social Security Administration Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance Important Information

Date:

Claim Number:

I am writing to ask your help in making sure that we are paying you the correct amount of Social Security benefits. We need you to give us current information about your work.

Earlier, you told us that your earnings this year would be about \$16,000. Your plans, however, may have changed. Because we want to make sure that we are paying you accurately, we want you to check your estimate for this year, and let us know if it is different. We also need to know about your work plans for 2014.

The enclosed form has some questions about your work for this year and next year. After you complete it, please mail it in the enclosed envelope. We need to hear from you as soon as possible, because we need to know if your estimate for 2013 is still right. Also, if you do not return this form by October 1, 2013, we will use your 2013 earnings estimate to decide how much we will pay you in the first part of 2014.

Thank you for taking the time to assist us. We would like to give you the best possible service and hope that you find this form a convenient way to inform us about your work plans.

If you have any questions, you can call us toll free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. We can answer most questions over the phone. Our busiest times are the first week of the month and Mondays. So, we may be able to handle your call more quickly if you can call us at other times. If you prefer to visit or call one of our offices, use the 800 number and we can give you the office address and telephone number. Please have this letter with you if you call or visit an office. It will help us answer your questions.

Sincerely,

Carolyn W. Colvin

Acting Commissioner of

Carolyn W. Olin

Social Security

Enclosures:

Earnings Estimate Form SSA-L9778-SM-SUP

Envelope

Form SSA-L9778-SM-SUP (7-2013)

### Estimating Your Earnings for 2013 and 2014

We have put together a list of questions that will help you update your earnings estimate. Please answer them carefully. Before you answer our questions, we want to talk briefly about how to estimate your earnings.

#### How to Estimate Your Earnings

It may not be easy for you to figure ahead of time how much you will make in 2013 and 2014. But if you keep these pointers in mind, you should have no problem.

- If you are paid wages, base your estimate on what you expect to earn before taxes or other deductions for the whole year. Be sure to include bonuses, vacation pay, sick pay, tips of \$20 or more a month, and any contribution that you make from your salary to a tax deferred savings plan.
- Drop from your estimate any money you will get from your employer this year for work you did last year or before. Also, do not include:
  - Social Security, railroad or civil service retirement, veterans, black lung or public assistance benefits;
  - pensions and other retirement payments which are not reported on your W-2 form;
  - investment income;
  - interest from savings accounts;
  - life insurance annuities and dividends:

- gifts or inheritances;
- gain (or loss) from the sale of capital assets:
- rental income:
- unemployment or worker's compensation;
- jury duty payments.
- If you are self-employed, base your estimate on what you think your net earnings will be just like on your tax return. If you became entitled to Social Security benefits before 2013: (1) do not include in your estimate any Federal agricultural program payments you expect in 2013; and (2) do not include self-employment income received in 2013 from carry-over crops for work you did before you became entitled to Social Security benefits.
- If you get both wages and income from self-employment, add the two amounts together. The total is your estimate.

(OVER)

## You will reach full retirement age in JUNE 2032.

Beginning with the month of full retirement age, the earnings limit no longer applies. If you will reach full retirement age in **January 2014**, you do not have to complete question 3 regarding your earnings for 2014.

People who reach full retirement age in February through December 2014 should exclude from their estimate of yearly earnings for 2014 any wages earned in the month they reach full retirement age and all following months. Self-employment income should be prorated based on the number of months under full retirement age. That is, divide expected net earnings (or loss) for 2014 by the number of months of self-employment and multiply this result by the number of months in 2014 before you reach full retirement age.

Now, you are ready to answer the following questions about your earnings. And again, it is important for us to hear from you.

## Questions For

1.	Earlier, you told us you will earn \$16,000 this year. How much do you now think you will earn in 2013?
	Show your earnings for the whole year, including amounts you will <u>earn</u> both before and after you filed for Social Security benefits.
	Show your answer in the space below.
	\$
Your	Retirement Plans
	elp us make sure that we understand your answers, we would like to
_	if you have retired, or if you plan to retire this year.
0	
2.	Have you retired, or do you plan to retire in 2013?
	If you retired, or plan to retire from your regular (full-time) employment in 2013, answer "YES" to this question even if you work or plan to work part-time.
	Show an "X" in the box next to your answer.
	NO, I have not retired and I am not going to retire this year.
	YES, I have retired, or plan to retire this year.
	If you answered "yes", please show your retirement date in the space below.

Please go on to question 3.

Month / Day / Year

#### Our Last Question

If you will reach full retirement age in **January 2014**, you do not have to complete this question.

Our last question is about your earnings in 2014. Please look ahead and estimate how much you plan to earn next year. We will use this information to decide how much we can pay you in 2014. If you do not plan to work in 2014, show "0" as your estimated earnings amount. If you will attain full retirement age in 2014, include only your earnings prior to the month you become full retirement age. You must answer this question. If you do not enter an amount in question 3, we will use your estimate for 2013 to decide how much to pay you in 2014.

3. How muc	h do you think you will earn in 2014?	
Show your an	nswer in the space below.	
Remember, you need to return this form as soon as possible. If you do not return it by <b>October 1, 2013</b> , we will use your 2013 earnings estimate to decide how much to pay you in the first part of 2014.		
Please sign this form in the space below, and send it back to us in the enclosed envelope. And again, thank you for your help.		
on this form, and or	alty of perjury that I have examined all the information any accompanying statements or forms, and it is true est of my knowledge.	
Your Signature	Date	
	a telephone number where we can reach you during the day. We ectly if we need more information to process this form.	
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Area Code	Telephone Number	
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