

Privacy Act Statement Collection and Use of Personal Information

Section 202(h) of the Social Security Act, as amended, authorizes us to collect this information. We will use this information to help us determine your entitlement to benefits.

Furnishing us this information is voluntary. However, failing to provide us with all or part of the information may prevent us from making an accurate and timely decision on your claim, and could result in the denial or loss of benefits.

We rarely use the information you supply for any purpose other than for determining eligibility for benefits. However, we may use the information for the administration of our programs including sharing information:

1. To comply with Federal laws requiring the release of information from our records (e.g., to the Government Accountability Office and Department of Veterans Affairs); and,
2. To facilitate statistical research, audit, or investigative activities necessary to ensure the integrity and improvement of our programs (e.g., to the Bureau of the Census and to private entities under contract with us).

A complete list of when we may share your information with others, called routine uses, is available in our Privacy Act System of Records 60-0089, entitled Claims Folder System. Additional information about this system of records notice and our programs is available from our Internet website at www.socialsecurity.gov or at your local Social Security office.

We may also use the information you provide in computer matching programs. Matching programs compare our records with records kept by other Federal, State, or local government agencies. Information from these matching programs can be used to establish or verify a person's eligibility for Federally funded or administered benefit programs and for repayment of payments or delinquent debts under these programs.