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The Social Security Star

GO DIGITAL! VISIT SOCIAL SECURITY ONLINE AT SSA.GOV



Social Security's website at [ssa.gov](https://www.ssa.gov) offers the most reliable and up-to-date information about our programs and services. You can find helpful resources and tools designed to make it easy for you to do business with us.

Find Answers Quickly and Easily

Our *Frequently Asked Questions* page at www.ssa.gov/faqs/en/ features the most-asked questions at the top, so you can get answers fast. Topics include:

- How to get help from Social Security.

- Yearly Cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) details.
- What to do if you receive a suspicious call claiming to be from Social Security.
- How to schedule, reschedule, or cancel an appointment.
- Working while receiving Social Security retirement benefits.

You can browse by Topic:

- Disability
- Supplemental Security Income
- Retirement
- Medicare

Access Our Publications Webpage

Visit our publications library at www.ssa.gov/pubs/ for detailed information on nearly all Social Security topics. Publications are available in text, audio, downloadable formats, and multiple languages.

Go Digital and Save Time!

Whether you need answers or information, our website makes it easy to find what you need. While there, if you have not already done so, create your personal *my* Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount!

With your personal account, you can easily check your earnings record, estimate your future benefits, and access a wide range of self-service options online, at any time.

Tell your friends and family about [ssa.gov](https://www.ssa.gov) and share on social media.

Most Social Security services are available online by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov, and by calling Social Security toll-free at 1 (800) 772-1213 or 1 (800) 325-0778 TTY

Remember, visit www.ssa.gov/agency/emergency/ for up-to-date information about Social Security Office Closings and Emergencies. Subscribe to state or territory specific updates!

CREATE YOUR PERSONAL 'MY SOCIAL SECURITY' ACCOUNT TODAY



Are you looking for a secure, convenient way to plan for your retirement or manage your Social Security information?

Go Digital! Create your personal **my Social Security** account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount!

With your personal account, you can easily check your earnings record, estimate your future benefits, and access a wide range of self-service options online, at any time.

Benefits of Creating a free and secure **my Social Security** Account:

- **Access Your Information Anytime:** View your *Social Security Statement*, check your earnings history, and get personalized estimates of your future benefits.
- **Manage Your Benefits Online:** Apply for benefits, request replacement Social Security or Medicare cards, and get instant proof of income or benefit verification letters.
- **Stay Informed and Secure:** Update your contact information and manage your direct deposit from the comfort of your preferred location.
- **Save Time:** No need to visit an office or wait on the phone as most services are available instantly online.
- Get instant benefit verification or proof of income letters.
- Start or change your direct deposit.
- Update your address and telephone number.
- Check your benefit amount and information.
- Get an instant Social Security 1099 form (SSA-1099) or SSA-1042S.
- Report your wages if you work and receive disability benefits or SSI.

What Can You Do with a Personal **my Social Security** Account?

If you don't currently receive benefits:

- Request a replacement Social Security card (if eligible).
- View your Social Security Statement and future benefit estimates.
- Compare different dates or ages to begin receiving benefits.
- Review your earnings history.
- Check the status of your application for benefits.
- Get instant proof you do not receive Social Security, Medicare, or SSI

If you receive benefits:

- Request a replacement Social Security or Medicare card (if eligible).

Ready to get started?

Visit our website to create your free **my Social Security** account today at

www.ssa.gov/myaccount. If you already have an account, sign in to explore our features and services.

Encourage your friends and family to go digital and sign up for their personal **my Social Security** account. Discover all you can do online: securely, conveniently, and at your fingertips!

Looking for Social Security publications? For a full list of available Social Security publications, visit www.ssa.gov/pubs! Publications are available online, .pdf, and print. For instructions on how to order publications, go to www.ssa.gov/pubs and select Order in the top right hand corner.

A FASTER AND MORE CONVENIENT WAY TO REQUEST A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER AND CARD



If you need an original Social Security number (SSN) or a replacement card, you can now complete your request online, and if needed, schedule an appointment for faster service.

How It Works

When you visit our Social Security number and card page at www.ssa.gov/number-card, we'll ask you a few questions to determine the best way for you to apply.

1. We will walk you through each step of the application process.
2. After you submit your online application, we will either process it online or guide you to schedule an appointment to visit your local Social

Security office or card center and complete the process.

By starting the application online, your in-office visit will typically take less time.

We have expanded appointment-based services as part of our ongoing efforts to serve you more efficiently. If you need to visit a local Social Security office or card center, please make an appointment.

Before your visit to complete your application

1. Determine what documents you need to bring with you. They must be originals or certified copies. Learn more at www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/ss5doc.htm.
1. Follow directions at the kiosk when you arrive at the office. Our Mobile Check-in Express makes it easier to check in. To use Mobile Check-in Express, scan the QR code posted near the entrance and turn on your mobile notifications. We'll alert you when we're ready to help you.
2. Meet with one of our employees who will verify the information

you submitted online and review your documents. We don't need to keep them.

That's it! Whether you apply for a Social Security card online or at an office, we'll process the application and mail a card to you, usually within 10 business days.

For more helpful information, check out our publications, *Your Social Security Number and Card*, at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10002.pdf.

Please share this information with your friends and family – and post it on social media.



SOCIAL SECURITY SURVIVOR BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN



Losing a parent is one of the most difficult experiences a child can face. Along with the emotional challenges, families often must navigate new financial realities. Many Americans don't realize that the Social Security Administration (SSA) can help support children who have lost a parent by providing monthly Survivor benefits.

Who is eligible for Survivor benefits?

If a child loses a parent who worked and paid into Social Security, that child may be eligible for monthly Survivor benefits. These benefits aren't just for biological children, they can also be paid to stepchildren, adopted children, grandchildren, and step-grandchildren under certain circumstances. In most cases, these benefits continue until the child turns 18 or graduates

from high school, whichever comes later. Additionally, adults who became disabled before age 22 may be eligible for childhood Survivor benefits at any age.

Why are Survivor benefits important?

The death of a parent can have a lasting impact on a child's emotional well-being, academic performance, and financial stability. Survivor benefits are designed to help ease the financial burden during this challenging time, providing a measure of security and support for the child's future.

How to apply for Survivor benefits

Applying for Survivor benefits is not something you can do online. Instead, you'll need to call us or visit your local Social Security office in person.

To set up an appointment, call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY: 1-800-325-0778) between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Wait times are usually shorter early in the day (before 10 a.m.), later in the afternoon (after 4 p.m.), or later in the week (Wednesday to Friday). Most appointments can be scheduled within 30 to 60 days.

When you call, have the Social Security number (SSN) of the parent who passed away ready.

The representative will let you know what other information you'll need for your appointment.

It's important to contact us as soon as possible after a parent's death. The date you reach out can affect when the child's benefits will begin, so don't delay.

For more information about Social Security Survivor benefits for children, visit www.ssa.gov/survivor and review our publication, *Benefits for Children* at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10085.pdf.

FIVE SOCIAL SECURITY RESOURCES THAT CAN PROTECT ELDERS FROM SCAMS



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is on June 15. On this day, communities, seniors, caregivers, governments, organizations, and the private sector unite to prevent the

mistreatment of and violence against older people.

Social Security scams are widespread across the United States. Scammers use sophisticated tactics to deceive you into providing sensitive information or money. They target everyone – especially the elderly – and their tactics continue to evolve.

Here are five easy-to-use resources to prevent Social Security fraud:

- Create your personal *my* Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount to stay one step ahead of scammers.
- Read our blog post to learn how to guard your Social Security card – and protect your personal information at www.ssa.gov/blog/en/posts/2025-06-05.html.
- Check out our *Protect Yourself from Scams* page to learn how we fight scammers at www.ssa.gov/scam.
- Read our **Scam Alert** fact sheet to learn what tactics scammers use and how to protect yourself at www.ssa.gov/fraud/assets/materials/EN-05-10597.pdf.
- Learn about other types of fraud on our Office of the Inspector General's (OIG)

Scam Awareness page at oig.ssa.gov/scam-awareness/scam-alert. You'll also see how to report these scams to our OIG and other government agencies.

Please share this information with your friends and family to help spread awareness about Social Security imposter scams.

**REPORT SOCIAL SECURITY SCAMS
AT
[HTTPS://SECURE.SSA.GOV/OIG/SCAM/](https://secure.ssa.gov/oig/scam/)**

**DO YOU SUSPECT SOMEONE OF
COMMITTING FRAUD, WASTE, OR
ABUSE AGAINST SOCIAL SECURITY?**

**REPORTING FRAUD TO THE SSA
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR
GENERAL IS EASY, SAFE, AND
SECURE.**

**REPORT SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD
AT
[HTTPS://SECURE.SSA.GOV/OIG/FRAUD/](https://secure.ssa.gov/oig/fraud/)**

**OR BY
PHONE:**

**(800) 269-0271
(866) 501-2101 TTY**

**10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. ET,
MONDAY TO FRIDAY,
EXCEPT FEDERAL HOLIDAYS**