

HOW TO APPLY FOR ADULT SSI BENEFITS

Who is eligible?

In order to be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) you must:

- » Have low income and few resources AND
- » Be 65 or older OR be blind OR be disabled.

How do I apply?

Call toll free: 1-800-772-1213 (or TTY 1-800-325-0778) to ask to meet with a Social Security representative. You can call Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Be sure to have your Social Security number available when you call.

What do I need?

You will need the following information/ documents:

- » Your Social Security card or a record of your Social Security number
- » Your birth certificate or other proof of your age such as a driver's license or state ID number
- » Information about where you live. If you live in a home, you will need your mortgage information. If you live in an apartment, manufactured home, or a home that you rent, you will need your lease and your landlord's name
- » Your income information, including: pay stubs or slips; bank books; insurance policies; burial fund records; and other information about the things you own
- » Information about all of the doctors you see and the hospitals or clinics you have been to including the name, address, and telephone number
- » Proof that you are a U.S. citizen or proof of your eligible non-citizen status
- » Your checkbook or other papers that show your bank, credit union or savings and loan account

What happens next?

- » Keep your appointment
- » Your Social Security representative will help you complete the application for SSI
- » Your Social Security representative will help you get the documents you may need
- » Social Security may decide more medical information is needed. If Social Security decides more medical information is needed, Social Security will pay for you to have an exam or test and make the appointment for you. It is important for you to keep this appointment. You should ask Social Security to pay for the cost of travelling to this appointment.
- » You will receive Social Security's decision about your application in writing

What if my application for SSI is denied?

If your application for SSI is denied, you have a right to Appeal that decision. Your Notice of Decision will explain the steps you must take to file an Appeal. You may wish to contact LAWO at: (888) 534-1432 or www.LegalAidLine.org to find out if more help is available.