



To learn more about these and other programs, contact Family Voices Indiana. We will assist you as you navigate health care systems and services, especially those available to individuals with special health care needs.
1-844-F2F-INFO
1-844-323-4636
Fvindiana.org

Supplemental Security Income (SSI): Individuals Over the Age of 18

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) at age 18

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a monthly amount of money paid to individuals who are disabled and have limited income and resources. For age 18 and older, only the income and resources of the person who is disabled is countable. That means that **even if your child didn't qualify for SSI as a child with a disability due to parents' income, your newly adult child may qualify because only his or her income and resources are counted.**

Your child can apply for SSI up to 90 days before the 18th birthday, but the interview won't take place until less than 30 days before the age of 18. If your child is unable to apply on his own, you may do so for him. SSI benefits can begin as early as one month after the child's 18th birthday month. **If your child is already on SSI, s/he will be re-evaluated within a year of the birthday.**

How to apply

To apply for SSI, call the Social Security Administration toll free at 1-800-772-1213 or contact your local Social Security office. The addresses and telephone numbers of the local Social Security office are listed in your local telephone directory. You may also contact the Social Security Administration for information or to apply for SSI via their website at <https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityssi/>. You can search by zip code to locate your closest Social Security Administration at <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>.

It is recommend that you gather the necessary application information before applying to make the process quicker and easier. Click here for a handy checklist: <https://www.ssa.gov/hlp/radr/10/ovw001-checklist.pdf>.

Who is eligible?

The definition of "disability" for an adult is slightly different than that of a child. For a child, the focus of the disability determination is on functional limitations; for an adult, the focus is on work. To be eligible for SSI, the individual must be unable to work at a substantial level, which at the current time is to make \$1010 a month or more, and the disability is supposed to have lasted or be expected to last at least a year or to result in death.

The Social Security Administration has a process to determine the disability. This process includes five basic questions:



To learn more about these and other programs, contact Family Voices Indiana. We will assist you as you navigate health care systems and services, especially those available to individuals with special health care needs.
1-844-F2F-INFO
1-844-323-4636
Fvindiana.org

1. Is the individual working?
2. Is the individual's condition severe?
3. Is the individual's condition severe enough to meet Social Security's "listing of impairments? Visit the following link for the list, and note that each impairment listed is a link to the eligible conditions in that category:
<http://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/AdultListings.htm>
4. Can the individual do the work s/he did previously?
5. Can the individual do any other type of work?

Once the above questions are answered, the Social Security Administration will forward the claim to Indiana's Disability Determination Service Bureau to review medical information and other information submitted.

An individual who can work some, but less than full-time, may be able to take advantage of a Work Incentives program through the Social Security Administration. Work incentives programs allow the individual to work and still receive some benefits. If in doubt as to whether or not the individual will qualify, it is recommended to apply for the program.

Even if the individual does not have a qualifying disability but is a child who is the recipient of Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) due to the disability or death of a parent, then s/he may be entitled to SSDI benefits after age 18.

What happens if the adult child is awarded SSI?

If your adult child is approved for SSI due to disability, s/he can receive the money in a bank account themselves, or make the parent the "representative payee." Information on managing SSI as an adult, whether as the adult with a disability or as a guardian of the recipient, is covered in the Family Voices Indiana Fact Sheet **Managing SSI for an Adult with a Disability**

For more information, contact Family Voices Indiana at 1-844-323-4636 or info@fvindiana.org.

Programs and systems change often. It is important to ensure that you are using the most current information. This Fact Sheet was updated June 2016. Please check http://fvindiana.org/fact_sheets for the most recent edition.
Supported in part by funding from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Indiana's Children's Special Health Care Services.