



# How to Apply Online for Retirement, Spouses or Medicare Benefits

It's so easy! Just go to ***www.SocialSecurity.gov/benefits/retirement*** and select **Apply for Retirement Benefits** and then accept the terms of service to begin.

## Apply Online for Benefits

Select one:

- Start a New Application
- Return to Saved Application Process

## Create or log in to your *my* Social Security account

You need to log in to your *my* Social Security account, or create one and then log in. When you create an account, we ask you some identity questions to verify it's you. You may want to have certain items on hand for any additional security questions, such as:

- Name
- Social Security number
- Date of birth
- Gender
- W2 information
- Tax information
- Credit Card
- A valid mobile telephone number

## Re-entry Number

After you have successfully started your application, you may want to print your re-entry number so you can quickly continue your application later if you need to stop before you finish.

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The Official Website of the U.S. Social Security Administration

### Apply for Benefits

#### Information About Applicant

**Your Name:**  
Please provide the name as it appears on the most recent Social Security card.

First:  Middle:  Last:  Suffix:

**Social Security Number (SSN):**

**Date of Birth:**  
Month:  Day:  Year:

**Gender:**  
☐ Male ☐ Female

**Are you blind?**  
☐ Yes ☐ No

During the last 14 months, have you been unable to work because of illnesses, injuries or

## Questions About Your Benefits

- When you want your Social Security benefits to start
- Other benefits you may receive

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### Apply for Benefits

Identification General Other Benefits Remarks Review & Sign

#### Review Information for John Public

If you need to make any changes, please select the "Edit" button to return to that page.

**Identification**

Edit Applicant Identification

Name: **John Q. Public**  
Social Security Number: \*\*\*\*-\*\*-0309  
Date of Birth: **January 3, 1946**  
Gender: **Male**  
Blind: **No**  
Disabled: **No**

**Applicant's Contact Information**

Edit

Contact Information  
Mailing Address: **1234 First Street, Baltimore, Maryland, 21201**  
Reside at this address: **Yes**  
Phone: **(410) 325-8779 Home**  
Best time to call: **Anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.**  
Email Address:  
Confirm Email Address:

## Contacting Social Security

The most convenient way to contact us anytime, anywhere is to visit **[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)** where you can also take care of some business with an online *my* Social Security account.

Call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213** or at **1-800-325-0778** (TTY) if you're deaf or hard of hearing. We can answer your calls from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., weekdays. Or use our automated services via telephone, 24 hours a day. We look forward to serving you.

## Questions About Your Work

- Employment
- Self-employment
- Military service
- Work for a government agency
- Work history

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#### When to Start Retirement Benefits for John Public

It's your choice when to start retirement benefits. The earlier the date you start your benefits, the smaller your benefit. The later the date you start to receive benefits, the larger your benefit. This is an important decision, with several factors to consider before you choose the month your benefits should start. [More Info](#)

If you have applied for, or are currently receiving, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), you must select the earliest possible month that you are eligible for benefits. An SSI recipient is required to pursue all other benefits when first eligible.

We have an estimator that can show you what your benefit amount will be under various scenarios. You may wish to end this session and go there now. You will be able to return and continue where you left off. The information you have already entered will be saved.

[Go to Estimator](#)

We need to know when you want to start benefits.

**Do you want benefits to start in 10/2015?**  
☐ Yes ☐ No (Your other available options are 04/2015 to 02/2016.)

**If you are eligible for both retirement benefits and spouse's benefit, do you want to delay receipt of retirement benefit?** [More Info](#)  
If you are full retirement age and we determine that you are eligible to receive both a retirement benefit and a spouse's benefit, you may choose to delay receiving your own retirement benefit and

**In this section...**

- Marriage Information
- Prior Marriages
- Children
- Military Details
- Employer Details
- Self-Employment Details
- Supplemental Information
- Total Earnings
- Other Pensions/Annuities
- When to Start Retirement Benefits**
- Direct Deposit Details

## Review Your Information and Finish Your Application

- Sign your application by selecting the "Submit Now" button
- Get a Confirmation Number
- Print the receipt for your application
- Learn what to do next
- Receive a list of documents you may need to show us



Securing today  
and tomorrow

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