

3 Common Questions About Filing For Disability Income

Filing for [supplemental security income](#) (SSI) benefits takes significant time and effort. Many people who file are denied the first time around. This leaves many disabled individuals wary of filing for benefits or filing an appeals claim.

If you're in this unfortunate position, you should know that there are certain steps to take to successfully file your claim. There are also various resources available that make filing for Supplemental Security Income much easier.

What Disabilities Are Covered By SSI?

The requirements for filing for Supplemental Security Income are straightforward. In order for you to be eligible for SSI benefits, you must meet the standard financial and medical requirements.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) is the government agency that handles disability benefits. To get Supplemental Security Income, you need to meet SSA requirements.

The agency provides a comprehensive [Listing Of Impairments](#). The impairments are divided into these 14 categories:

1. Musculoskeletal System
2. Special Senses and Speech
3. Respiratory Disorders
4. Cardiovascular System
5. Digestive System
6. Genitourinary Disorders
7. Hematological Disorders
8. Skin Disorders
9. Endocrine Disorders
10. Congenital Disorders that Affect Multiple Body Systems
11. Neurological Disorders
12. Mental Disorders
13. Cancer (Malignant Neoplastic Diseases)
14. Immune System Disorders

Each category features subcategories, and that's where you can find specific names of disabilities and illnesses. If you're applying for your child, there is a separate [listing of impairments for children](#).

What Evidence Do I Need For SSI?

You need to provide evidence of your disability to receive SSI. The Social Security Administration has strict requirements, so having plenty of proof is important.

First, you need evidence that shows you are impaired. Collect as much medical documentation as you can. Here are some examples of what you might use as evidence.

- A current, valid diagnosis of your medical condition.
- Records from visits to a doctor, hospital, or healthcare facility.
- Copies of x-ray or MRI scans.
- Prescribed medications used to treat your disability.
- History of how your disability has progressed over time.

You also need to prove the severity of your impairment. You have to show to the SSA that your disability significantly impacts normal functions. Here are some examples of proof:

- A list of how your symptoms limit daily functions.
- The frequency and severity of your disability symptoms.
- A list of daily functions that trigger your symptoms.
- Documentation about your symptoms from an employer or social worker.

Your healthcare provider may also help you describe the severity of your symptoms. Request a letter that explains your symptoms and limitations.

Do I Need A Lawyer To File My Disability Claim?

It can be difficult to successfully file for Supplemental Security Income. The information above will certainly help, but one small mistake can result in a rejected claim. The last thing you need is stress while dealing with your disability.

A Social Security Disability lawyer can help you out no matter where you're at in the filing process. They have dealt with every step of the filing process, so you can count on their experience. A lawyer may:

- Review your information to help you build a compelling case.
- Ensure that your application is 100% complete.
- Collect documentation for your case.
- Handle communication with the Social Security Administration.
- If necessary, file an appeal if your claim is rejected.

If you want to increase your chances of receiving SSI benefits, consider hiring a Social Security Disability lawyer.