

Social Security News

Celebrating Independence Day

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July 4th brings family and friends together, as well as neighbors, to celebrate that we're all part of a community. Everyone pitches in, combining their resources — great food, music and displays — to lift our spirits.

Social Security has been helping people maintain their independence for over 80 years. In that time, we've made it even easier for you to access the programs and benefits you might need. Today, applying online is a fast way to get those crucial benefits.

Here are some of the benefits you can apply for:

- Retirement or Spouse's Benefits — You must be at least 61 years and 9 months old and want your benefits to start no more than four months in the future. Apply at www.socialsecurity.gov/retireonline.
- Disability — You can apply online for disability benefits. Apply for Disability at www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityonline.
- Extra Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Costs — Some people need assistance with the cost of medications. Apply for Extra Help at www.socialsecurity.gov/i1020.
- Medicare — Medicare is a national health insurance program administered by the U.S. federal government that began in 1966. You should apply before your 65th birthday at www.socialsecurity.gov/retireonline.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) — SSI is a federal income program funded by general tax revenues designed to help aged, blind and disabled people who have little or no income. You may be able to apply online if you meet certain requirements. See if you can apply online for SSI at www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/ssi.

Social Security provides benefits for millions of people, including retirees, wounded warriors, children and people with disabilities who cannot work. Find the help you or your family needs at www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits.

We need you to let loved ones know about the ways we may provide benefits. By sharing our resources with friends and family, you can help create independence for them at www.socialsecurity.gov/oneservices.