

Social Security Connection

See what you can do online



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Field Office Hours Suspended

(effective March 17, 2020)

Face-to-face service to the public in our field offices and hearings offices nationwide has been suspended until further notice, due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Please consider visiting us online:

SSA.gov



my Social Security

Check out your *Social Security Statement*, change your address and manage your benefits online today.

SSA.gov/myaccount



Social Security Number

Your Social Security number remains your first and continuous link with Social Security.

SSA.gov/ssnumber



Eligibility for Spouse's Benefits

With more than 80 years of service, the Social Security Administration has helped secure today and tomorrow with financial benefits, information, and tools that support you throughout life's journey. In May, we recognize Older Americans month and we encourage you to participate by learning about available Social Security benefits. Did you know that you may be able to receive benefits on your spouse's record if you have not worked or do not have enough Social Security credits to qualify for your own Social Security benefits? To qualify for spouse's benefits, you must be:

- 62 years of age or older; or
- Any age and care for a child who is younger than age 16 or who is disabled and entitled to receive benefits on your spouse's record.

Your full spouse's benefit could be up to one-half the amount your spouse is entitled to receive at their full retirement age. If you choose to receive spouse's benefits before you reach full retirement age, you will get a permanently reduced benefit.

If you wait until you reach full retirement age to receive benefits, you will receive your full spouse's benefit amount – up to half the amount your spouse can receive. You will also get your full spouse's benefit if you care for a child who is younger than age 16 or who has a disability and is entitled to receive benefits on your spouse's record.

If your benefits as a spouse are higher than your own retirement benefits, you will get a combination of benefits that equal the higher spouse benefit. For example, Sandy qualifies for a retirement benefit of \$250 and a spouse's benefit of \$400. At her full retirement age, she will receive her own \$250 retirement benefit. We will add \$150 from her spouse's benefit, for a total of \$400.

Want to apply for either your or your spouse's benefits? Are you at least 61 years and 8 months old? Visit www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement to learn more about the process.

Are you divorced, but your marriage lasted at least 10 years? You may be able to get benefits on your former spouse's record. Explore more about your eligibility by visiting our Benefits Planner page at www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/divspouse.html for more information.



Securing today
and tomorrow



Benefit Planner

Social Security has a variety of calculators to help you understand your Social Security protection and plan for your financial future.

[SSA.gov/planners](https://www.ssa.gov/planners)



FAQs

Get answers to frequently asked questions about Social Security.

[SSA.gov/faq](https://www.ssa.gov/faq)

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Social Security's blog has the most up-to-date articles on what matters to you most. It's easy to read and easy to share.

blog.ssa.gov

Follow us!



Securing today and tomorrow



Social Security Honors Our Military Heroes

On Memorial Day, our nation honors military service members who have given their lives for our country. Families, friends, and communities pause to remember the many great sacrifices of our military and ensure their legacy lives on in the freedoms we all enjoy. We recognize these heroes who, in President Lincoln's words, "gave the last full measure of devotion."

The benefits we provide can help the families of military service members. For example, widows, widowers, and their dependent children may be eligible for Social Security survivors benefits. You can learn more about those benefits at www.ssa.gov/survivors.

We also offer support to our wounded warriors. Social Security benefits protect veterans when an injury prevents them from returning to active duty or performing other

work. Wounded military service members can receive expedited processing of their Social Security disability claims. Are you a veteran with a 100% Permanent & Total compensation rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs? We will expedite your disability claim. Both the Department of Veteran Affairs and the Social Security Administration have disability programs. You may qualify for disability benefits through one program but not the other, or you may qualify for both. Depending on your situation, some of your family members, including your dependent children or spouse, may be eligible to receive Social Security benefits.

Want more information? Visit www.ssa.gov/woundedwarriors for answers to commonly asked questions or to find information about the application process.

Thinking about retirement? Military service members can receive Social Security benefits in addition to their military retirement benefits. For details, read the Military Service page of our Retirement Planner, available at www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/veterans.html.

Please share this information with the military families in your community. To the veterans who bravely served and died for our country, and to the military service members who serve today, we honor and thank you.

Protect Yourself from Social Security Scams

Telephone and email scammers are pretending to be government employees. Scammers will try to scare you and trick you into giving them your personal information and money. Don't be fooled! Social Security will **not**:



- Threaten you
- Tell you there is a problem with or suspend your Social Security number
- Demand immediate payment from you
- Require payment by retail gift card, pre-paid debit card, internet currency, wire transfer, or by mailing cash

If you receive a call or email like this, please report it to the Office of the Inspector General at <https://oig.ssa.gov>.

SSA.gov