

# Applying for Social Security Benefits



## APPLICATION:

To access waiver services and supports, you must apply for Medicaid and meet both the financial and disability requirements for Long-Term Care (LTC) Medicaid. There are two ways to apply to meet the disability requirement for LTC Medicaid. You can apply for Social Security benefits or complete a Medicaid Disability application.

This flyer is specifically related to the Social Security application route.

*If you are already receiving Social Security benefits, contact your local Dept. of Human Services office or Medicaid Application Assistance site to ask what Medicaid apps may be needed to obtain LTC Medicaid.*

See page 2 for additional resources.

## 1


### Ways to Apply for Social Security Benefits (SSI/SSDI)

- **Online** at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
- **In-person** at your local Social Security office with a scheduled appointment: <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>
- **By phone** (scheduled appointment) with your local office or the main SSA number: 1-800-772-1213; 1-800-325-0778 TTY

<b>NOTE:</b> When you apply for either program, Social Security will collect your medical and other information and decide whether or not you meet Social Security's <u>definition of disability</u> .	
<b>SSA</b>	Social Security Administration
<b>SSI</b>	<a href="#">Supplemental Security Income</a> pays benefits based on financial need.
<b>SSDI</b>	<a href="#">Social Security Disability Insurance</a> pays benefits to you and certain members of your family if you are "insured," meaning that you worked long enough and paid Social Security taxes.

## 2


### Tips




Ask your Case Manager for a copy of *A Guide to Applying for Social Security Benefits*.



Phone or in-person appointments with SSA are 90 minutes. Complete as much of the application as you can before your meeting.




If applying online, be sure to click YES that you want to apply for SSI and write down your re-entry number.



Keep a copy of all paperwork you submit.



Complete the Disability Report & the Application for SSI.



For more information: [www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability).

## 3

### Local Social Security Office Locations

SSA OFFICE	PHONE NUMBER	ADDRESS
Aurora	1-866-931-9965	14280 E. Jewell Ave, Suite 250, Aurora, CO 80012
Boulder	1-877-405-5872	4949 Pearl East Circle, Boulder, CO 80301
Colorado Springs	1-888-880-0688	1049 N. Academy Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Denver	1-866-613-9904	1500 Champa St., 2nd Floor, Suite 200, Denver, CO 80202
Lakewood	1-866-563-9469	13151 W. Alameda Pkwy, Lakewood, CO 80228
Littleton	1-888-824-4384	8000 Southpark Lane, Littleton, CO 80120

\*For a full list of Social Security offices: <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp> >>> enter your zip code & click Locate.

# Maintaining Social Security Benefits



## ELIGIBILITY:

To continue to receive Medicaid waiver services and supports, you must meet the financial, eligibility, and disability requirements of Long-Term Care (LTC) Medicaid and the targeting criteria for the LTC Medicaid waiver you are enrolled in.



### ASSETS / INCOME

- Work income must be reported to SSA on a monthly basis if receiving SSI.
- There are strict financial limits for SSI and SSDI recipients. See the SSA website for more information.
- Social Security has its own review process of Trusts, separate from Medicaid. SSA's asset limit does not include resources sheltered in an approved trust, nor an ABLE account that is under \$100,000.



### SOCIAL SECURITY MAIL

- Keeping up with your mail from Social Security is very important.
- Contact SSA with questions about Social Security correspondence.
- Ask to speak with a manager if not getting the answers you need.



### DISABILITY DETERMINATION

- Must be determined to meet the Federal Social Security Administration's definition of disability (must maintain Social Security benefits if receiving).
- If SSI is lost due to parent income (children under 18), a Medicaid Disability application (through Medicaid and ARG) may be needed.



### REPORT CHANGES

- Report changes to Social Security immediately or no later than 10 days after the end of the month in which the change occurred.
  - Such as change of address, marital status, income, death of a spouse or household member, etc.
- Report directly to Social Security in one of the following ways:
  - Online at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).
  - Call your local SSA office or the main customer service number.
  - Mail information or drop off at your local office (check hours of operation).
  - Fax to your local office (see the online office locator for fax numbers).

## Social Security Benefits

The most common way people qualify for Medicaid is by approval for SSI.

SSI = Supplemental Security Income



### CONTINUING DISABILITY REVIEW (CDR)

- Disability redeterminations are requested every several years and as needed. For people who are part of the Ticket-to-Work program, CDR's are not needed.
  - [www.ssa.gov/ssi/text-cdrs-ussi.htm](http://www.ssa.gov/ssi/text-cdrs-ussi.htm)
- Receive packet by mail.
- Complete and submit by the due date.
- Submit current (1-2 years) supporting documents with the redetermination/CDR.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Department of Human Services | [www.colorado.gov/cdhs/contact-your-county](http://www.colorado.gov/cdhs/contact-your-county)
- Health First Colorado Medicaid | [www.healthfirstcolorado.com](http://www.healthfirstcolorado.com)
- Social Security Administration | [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) or 1-800-772-1213
- Ask your Case Manager for a copy of *A Guide to Applying for Social Security Benefits*.