





#### **How Do You Qualify for Retirement Benefits?**

- By earning "credits" when you work and pay Social Security taxes
- You need 40 credits (10 years of work) and you must be 62 or older
- Each \$1,470 in earnings gives you one credit
- You can earn a maximum of 4 credits per year

Note: To earn 4 credits in 2021, you must earn at least \$5,880.

ssa.gov/planners/credits.html



SocialSecurity.gov



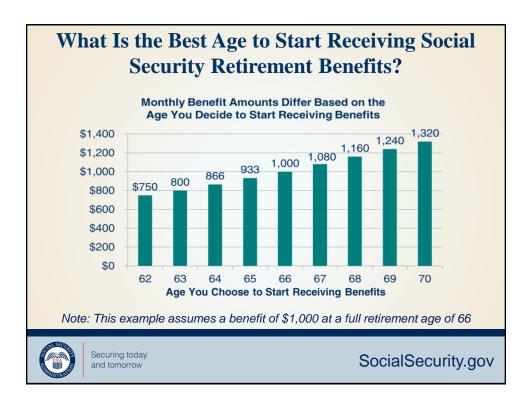
#### **How Social Security Determines Your Benefit**

Benefits are based on earnings

- Step 1 Your wages are adjusted for changes in wage levels over time
- Step 2 Find the monthly average of your 35 highest earnings years
- Step 3 Result is "average indexed monthly earnings"

ssa.gov/OACT/COLA/Benefits.html





| Year of<br>Birth | Full<br>Retirement<br>Age | A \$1000 retirement<br>benefit taken at<br>age 62 would be<br>reduced by | A \$500 spouse<br>benefit taken at<br>age 62 would<br>be reduced by |
|------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| 1943-1954        | 66                        | 25%  | 30%   |
| 1955             | 66 and 2 months           | 25.83%   | 30.83%  |
| 1956             | 66 and 4 months           | 26.67%   | 31.67%  |
| 1957             | 66 and 6 months           | 27.5%  | 32.5%   |
| 1958             | 66 and 8 months           | 28.33%   | 33.33%  |
| 1959             | 66 and 10 months          | 29.17%   | 34.17%  |
| 1960 +           | 67                        | 30%  | 35%   |

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# **Working While Receiving Benefits**

| If you are                                    | You can make up to                                     | If you earn more, some benefits will be withheld |
|---|--|--|
| Under Full<br>Retirement Age                  | \$18,960/yr.   | \$1 for every \$2                                |
| The Year Full<br>Retirement Age is<br>Reached | \$50,520/yr.<br>before month of<br>full retirement age | \$1 for every \$3                                |
| Month of Full<br>Retirement Age<br>and Above  | No Limit   | No Limit   |

Retirement Earnings Test Calculator: ssa.gov/OACT/COLA/RTeffect.html







# **Auxiliary Benefits for Children**

A child must have:

- A parent who's disabled or retired and entitled to Social Security benefits; or
- A parent who died after having worked long enough in a job where they paid Social Security taxes.

The child must also be:

- Unmarried;
- Younger than age 18;
- 18-19 years old and a fulltime student (no higher than grade 12); or
- 18 or older and disabled. (The disability must have started before age 22.)



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# **Benefits for a Spouse**

- Maximum benefit = 50% of worker's unreduced benefit
- Reduction for early retirement
- If spouse's own benefit is less than 50% of the worker's, they will be combined to equal to 50% of the worker's
- Does not reduce payment to the worker
- Benefit is unreduced if spouse is caring for worker's child younger than age 16 or disabled
- Spouse benefits are not payable until worker collects ssa.gov/planners/retire/yourspouse.html





# **Benefits for Divorced Spouses**

You may receive benefits on your former spouse's record (even if he or she has remarried) if:

- Marriage lasted at least 10 years
- You are unmarried
- You are age 62 or older
- Your ex-spouse is at least 62 and eligible for Social Security retirement or disability benefits, even if not collecting
- Benefit you would receive based on your own work is less than benefit you would receive based on ex-spouse's work

ssa.gov/planners/retire/yourdivspouse.html





| Survivor Benefits   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Child   | May receive benefits if unmarried and younger than age 18 (or younger than 19 if still in high school)   |  |  |
| Disabled Child  | May receive benefits after age 18 if unmarried (unless married to another beneficiary) and disabled before age 22  |  |  |
| Widow/er<br>or Divorced<br>Widow/er<br>(Remarriage after<br>age 60 will not<br>affect benefits) | May receive full benefits at full retirement age or reduced benefits:  • as early as age 60  • as early as 50, if disabled  • at any age if caring for child younger than 16 or disabled |  |  |



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### **Survivor Benefits**

When you pass away, your surviving spouse may:

- At full retirement age, receive 100% of deceased worker's unreduced benefit; or,
- At age 60, receive 71.5% of your full benefit and increases each month you wait up to 100% if you start at full retirement age; or
- Claim survivor benefits at any age between 60 and full retirement age.





#### Spouse (living) benefits

- Can start from age 62 to Full Retirement Age (FRA)
- 50% at FRA or less if you start prior to FRA (reduction for each month you take it early)

Divorced spouses qualify if marriage lasted at least 10 years and other conditions are met

#### Survivor (death) benefits

- Can start from age 60 to Full Retirement Age (FRA)
- 71.5% at age 60 and increases each month you wait, up to 100% if you start at FRA, or as early as age 50 if disabled

Divorced spouses qualify if marriage lasted at least 10 years and other conditions are met



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You can switch to retirement on your own record as early as age 62 if that benefit is higher than your surviving spouse's benefit.

OR

You can take retirement as early as age 62, then switch to surviving spouse's at full retirement age if benefit is higher.





### **Other Survivor Benefits**

- Parents' Benefits For a parent who is age 62 and was receiving at least one-half of his or her financial support from the son or daughter who died.
- Lump Sum Death Payment A surviving spouse or child may receive a one-time lump-sum death payment of \$255.00 if they meet certain requirements.

socialsecurity.gov/survivors



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## Medicare

Part A = Hospital Insurance

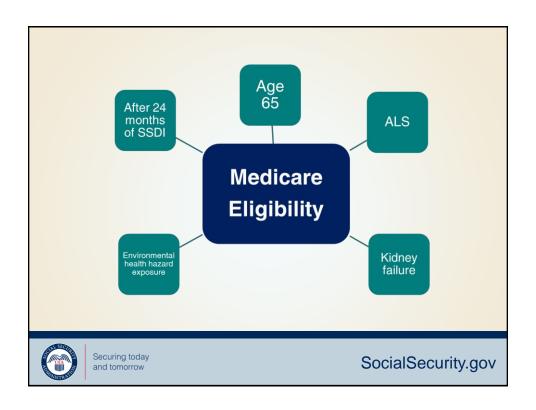
Part B = Medical Insurance

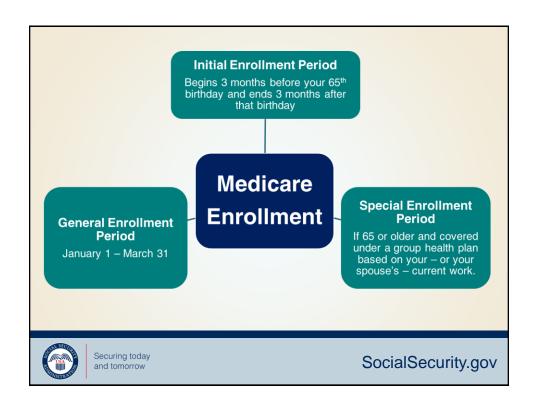
Part C = Medicare Advantage Plans

Part D = Prescription Drug Plans

Medicare.gov







| Medicare Standard Part B Premiums for 2021  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| If you're single and file an individual tax return, or married and file a joint tax return:                               |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI)   | Part B monthly premium amount       | Prescription drug plan monthly premium amount |  |  |  |
| Individuals with a MAGI of \$88,000 or less<br>Married couples with a MAGI of \$176,000 or less                           | 2021 standard<br>premium = \$148.50 | Your plan premium is \$0                      |  |  |  |
| Individuals with a MAGI above \$88,000 up to \$111,000 Married couples with a MAGI above \$176,000 up to \$222,000        | Standard premium<br>+ \$59.40       | Your plan premium + \$12.30                   |  |  |  |
| Individuals with a MAGI above \$111,000 up to \$138,000 Married couples with a MAGI above \$222,000 up to \$276,000       | Standard premium<br>+ \$148.50      | Your plan premium + \$31.80                   |  |  |  |
| Individuals with a MAGI above \$138,000 up to \$165,000 Married couples with a MAGI above \$276,000 up to \$330,000       | Standard premium<br>+ \$237.60      | Your plan premium + \$51.20                   |  |  |  |
| Individuals with a MAGI above \$165,000 up to \$500,000 Married couples with a MAGI above \$330,000 up to \$750,000       | Standard premium<br>+ \$326.70      | Your plan premium + \$70.70                   |  |  |  |
| Individuals with a MAGI equal to or greater than \$500,000 Married couples with a MAGI equal to or greater than \$750,000 | Standard premium<br>+ \$356.40      | Your plan premium + \$77.10                   |  |  |  |
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# **How to Apply for Benefits**



File online for Retirement, Spouse, Disability, or Medicare Only

- If you are disabled, you can file for Retirement and Disability with same application if you are at least 62 but not yet FRA
- Survivor\* application is not available online



Schedule phone appointment at 1-800-772-1213

\*Child and survivor claims can only be done by phone.









## **Online Calculators**

Online

Life Expectancy Calculator

Retirement Earnings Test

Early or Late Benefits for Spouses

GPO Quick Estimator

Detailed Age



SocialSecurity.gov



#### **Retirement Estimator**

- Gives estimates based on your actual Social Security earnings record
- You can use the Retirement Estimator if:
  - You have enough <u>Social Security credits</u> at this time to qualify for benefits and
  - You are not:
    - Currently receiving benefits on your own Social Security record;
    - Waiting for a decision about your application for benefits or Medicare;
    - Age 62 or older and receiving benefits on another Social Security record; or
    - Eligible for a Pension Based on Work Not Covered By Social Security.

socialsecurity.gov/estimator









# **Are You Having Difficulty Creating an Account?**

You may be unable to create a **my** Social Security Account if you have:

- Blocked electronic access to your personal Social Security information
- Recently moved or changed your name
- Placed a freeze on your credit report
  - If you have a credit freeze, you will not be able to proceed with online registration without temporarily removing the freeze



SocialSecurity.gov

# my Social Security Services

If you do not receive benefits, you can:

- View retirement benefit estimates at different ages or dates when you want to start receiving benefits;
- · View possible spouse's benefits;
- Request a replacement Social Security card if you meet certain requirements;
- Check the status of your application or appeal;
- Get a benefit verification letter as proof that you are not getting benefits;
- Get your Social Security Statement to review:
  - Estimates of your future retirement, disability, and survivor benefits;
  - Your earnings once a year to verify the amounts that we posted are correct; and
  - The estimated Social Security and Medicare taxes you've paid.
     ssa.gov/myaccount/what.html



# my Social Security Services

If you receive benefits or have Medicare, you can:

- Opt out of mailed notices for those available online;
- Request a replacement Social Security card if you meet certain requirements;
- Report your wages if you work and receive Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits;
- Get a benefit verification letter as proof that you are getting benefits;
- Check your benefit and payment information and your earnings record;
- Change your address and phone number;
- Start or change direct deposit of your benefit payment;
- Submit your advance designation of representative payee request;
- Request a replacement Medicare card; and
- Get a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S for tax season.

ssa.gov/myaccount/what.html







