

Should I Speak with a Social Security Lawyer if I Have Not Yet Received Payment?

Q: When should I expect to actually start receiving benefits payments for SSDI?

A: You are not eligible to start receiving social security disability benefits until you have been injured for five months. The way the billing cycles work, though, you will not actually receive your first benefits check until six months after the date of onset of your condition. If you are awaiting back pay benefits, they are usually paid within 2 months of approval. Please note that you will not be given backpay for the 5 month waiting period after your onset date. If you have any questions regarding backpay or the length of time it is taking for you to receive your benefits, it may be wise to speak with a social security lawyer.

Q: If you are rewarded social security disability benefits, are your children also eligible for benefits?

A: Yes, your dependents might qualify for disability benefits too. If your child is less than 18 years of age and is not married, he can qualify. Your children will qualify for benefits until age 19, if they are still students. Your spouse may qualify if he is over age 61. At any age your husband or wife may be eligible if he or she is providing financial support to your children that are under the age of 17. The amount of benefits your qualified family members receive may be as much as half of the monthly payment amount to which you are entitled. Contact a [social security lawyer](#), if you have any concerns about eligibility or applying for disability benefits for any of your family members.

Q: What happens when Social Security reviews my file after benefits have been awarded?

A: Your file will be periodically reviewed even after you receive benefits. A diary or schedule of when reviews should be conducted is established when you are awarded benefits and is based on the factors of your individual case. Your file should normally be reviewed a year after you are awarded benefits, then the third and seventh years after. Given the current backlog, however, reviews are not necessarily being conducted on that schedule. That means that your file could undergo a review when you do not expect it. The purpose of the reviews are to make sure that Social Security has the most current information about your medical and employment situation. The review will note changes in your condition that may or may not affect your eligibility for benefits. If you are concerned about the results of a recent review of your file, it may be wise to seek the counsel of a social security lawyer. A social security lawyer will know how best to approach any resulting requested medical exams or reevaluation of eligibility for benefits.

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