



Social Security Administration

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www.SocialSecurity.gov



History of Social Security Programs

- **1935 – Retirement Insurance**
- **1939 – Survivors Insurance**
- **1956 – Disability Insurance**



Other Programs

- **1965 – Medicare Program**
- **1972 – Supplemental Security Income**
- **2003 – Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage**



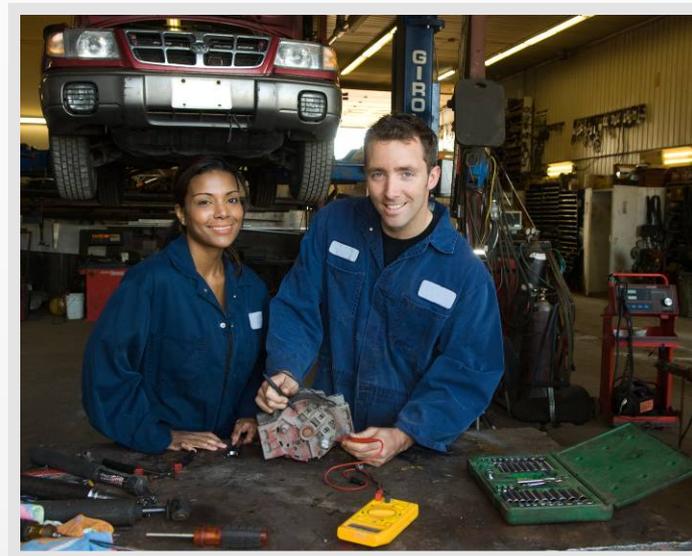
A Foundation for Planning Your Future





How Do You Qualify for Retirement Benefits?

- You need to work to earn Social Security “credits”
- Each \$1,200 in earnings gives you one credit
- You can earn a maximum of 4 credits per year



Example: To earn 4 credits in 2014, you must earn at least **\$4,800**. Earning 40 credits (10 years of work) throughout your working life will qualify you for a retirement benefit.



Thinking of Retiring?

- Deciding what is the ‘right’ age to retire
- How working after retirement can affect benefits
- Medicare considerations
- Online retirement estimator
- How to apply online for benefits

When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits

At Social Security, we've often asked, "What is the best age to start receiving retirement benefits?" The answer is that there is no one "best age" for everyone and, ultimately, it is your choice. You should make an informed decision about when to apply for benefits based on your individual and family circumstances. We hope the following information will help you understand how Social Security can fit into your retirement decision.

Your decision is a personal one

Would it be better for you to begin receiving benefits early with a smaller monthly amount or wait for a larger monthly payment later that you may not receive as long? The answer is highly personal and depends on a number of factors, such as your current cash needs, your health and family longevity, whether you plan to work in retirement, whether you have other retirement income sources, your anticipated future financial needs and obligations, and, of course, the amount of your future Social Security benefit. We hope you will weigh all the facts carefully and consider your own circumstances before making the important decision about when to begin receiving Social Security benefits.

Monthly payments differ substantially based on when you start receiving benefits

If you live to the average life expectancy for someone your age, you will receive about the same amount in lifetime benefits no matter whether you choose to start receiving benefits at age 62, full retirement age, age 70 or any age in between. However, monthly benefit amounts can differ substantially based on your retirement age. Basically, you can get lower monthly payments for a longer period of time or higher monthly payments over a shorter period of time. The amount you receive when you first get benefits sets the base for the amount you will receive for the rest of your life, though you do receive annual cost-of-living adjustments and, depending on

your work history, may receive higher benefits if you continue to work.

The following chart provides an example of how your monthly benefit amount can differ based on the age at which you decide to start receiving benefits.



Let's say your full retirement age is 66 and your monthly benefit starting at that age is \$1,000. If you choose to start getting benefits at age 62, your monthly benefit will be reduced by 25 percent to \$750 to account for the longer period of time you receive benefits. This is generally a permanent reduction in your monthly benefit.

If you choose to not receive benefits until age 70, you would increase your monthly benefit amount to \$1,320. This increase is from delayed retirement credits you get for your decision to postpone receiving benefits past your full retirement age. The benefit amount at age 70 in this example is 32 percent more than you would receive per month if you chose to start getting benefits at full retirement age.

Retirement may be longer than you think

When thinking about retirement, be sure to plan for the long term. Many of us will live much longer than the "average" retiree, and, generally, women tend to live longer than men. About one out of every four 65-year-olds

www.socialsecurity.gov

When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits

www.socialsecurity.gov

Social Security Administration
SSA Publication No. 05-10147
ICN 480136
Use of issue #1D (one hundred)
July 2008

www.SocialSecurity.gov



Full Retirement Age

Year of Birth	Full Retirement Age
1937 or earlier	65
1938	65 & 2 months
1939	65 & 4 months
1940	65 & 6 months
1941	65 & 8 months
1942	65 & 10 months
1943 – 1954	66
1955	66 & 2 months
1956	66 & 4 months
1957	66 & 6 months
1958	66 & 8 months
1959	66 & 10 months
1960 or later	67



Life Expectancy for Those Age 65 Today

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
U.S. Population	82	85
White	82	85
African American	79	83
Hispanic	85	89
Asian	85	88
American Indian	84	88



Your Age at the Time You Elect Retirement Benefits Affects the Amount

If You're a Worker and Retire

- **At age 62, you get a lower monthly payment**
- **At your full retirement age, you get your full benefit**
- **You get an even higher monthly payment if you work past your full retirement age**





Your Age at the Time You Elect Retirement Benefits Affects the Amount

If You're a Worker and Retire

- At age 62, you get a lower monthly payment
- At your full retirement age, you get your full benefit
- You get an even higher monthly payment if you work past your full retirement age



For example, if you were born from **1943** through

- 1954:**
- Age 62 **75%** of benefit
 - Age 66 **100%** of benefit
 - Age 70 **132%** of benefit



In Addition to the Retiree, Who Else Can Get Benefits?

Your Child

- **Not married-under 18**
(under 19 if still in high school)
- **Not married and disabled**
before age 22

Your Spouse

- **Age 62 or older**
- **At any age, if caring for a child under age 16 or disabled**





Spouse's Benefit Computation

- **Benefit is 50% of worker's unreduced benefit**
- **Reduction for early retirement**
- **If spouse's own benefit is less than 50% of the worker's, the benefits are combined**
- **Does not reduce payment to worker**



In Addition to the Retiree, Who Else Can Get Benefits?

Your Ex-Spouse

- **Marriage lasted at least 10 years**
- **Ex-spouse 62 or older**
- **Divorced at least two years and you and your ex-spouse are at least 62, he or she can get benefits even if you are not retired**
- **Ex-spouse's benefit amount has no effect on the amount you or your current spouse can get**



How Social Security Determines Your Benefit

Social Security 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”



2014 Retirement Benefit Computation Example

If your average monthly earnings are = \$5,200
Then your monthly benefit would be = \$2,050

Average Monthly Earnings	\$5,200		
90% of First	\$791	=	\$712
32% of Earnings over \$791 through \$4,768 ($\$4,768 - \$791 = \$3,977$)	\$3,977	=	\$1,273
15% of Earnings over \$4,768	\$432	=	\$65
	<u>\$5,200</u>		<u>\$2,050</u>



Use the Retirement Estimator

- Convenient, secure, and quick financial planning tool
- Immediate and accurate benefit estimates
- Lets you create “What if” scenarios based on different ages and earnings

The screenshot shows the Social Security Administration's Retirement Estimator page. At the top, there is the Social Security logo and navigation links for Home, Retirement, Disability, Survivors, SSI, Medicare, and Business Services. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main heading is "Retirement Estimator", with options for Mail and Print. The page is divided into two columns. The left column contains the heading "How The Retirement Estimator Works" followed by a paragraph explaining that estimates are based on actual earnings records and that they are just estimates. Below this is a bulleted list of reasons why estimates may differ from actual benefits. The right column contains the heading "Related Information" with links for "Estimate Your Life Expectancy", "What is the best age to start receiving retirement benefits?", and "Other things to consider". A "Note" box is also present, advising users to read "How to Move Around in This Application" if they need more information. At the bottom of the page, there is a button labeled "Estimate Your Retirement Benefits".

How The Retirement Estimator Works

The Retirement Estimator gives estimates based on your actual Social Security earnings record. Please keep in mind that these are just estimates. We can't provide your actual benefit amount until you apply for benefits. And that amount may differ from the estimates provided because:

- Your earnings may increase or decrease in the future.
- After you start receiving benefits, they will be adjusted for cost-of-living increases.
- Your estimated benefits are based on current law. The law governing benefit amounts may change because, by 2036, the payroll taxes collected will be enough to pay only about 77 percent of scheduled benefits.
- Your benefit amount may be affected by military service, railroad employment or pensions earned through work on which you did not pay Social Security tax.

Who Can Use The Retirement Estimator

You can use the Retirement Estimator if:

- You have enough Social Security credits 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.

If you are currently receiving only Medicare benefits, you can still get an estimate and Retirement Information For Medicare Beneficiaries.

Estimate Your Retirement Benefits



my Social Security

Your Online Account ... Your Control ...

www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount

my Social Security



Sign in

Create an Account

my Social Security is an easy-to-access, easy-to-use portal to view and update some of your own Social Security information.

www.SocialSecurity.gov



Who Can Create a *my*Social Security Account?

Must be at least 18
years old and have:

- A valid E-mail address;
- A Social Security number; and
- A U.S. mailing address.

At Every Stage of Life
my Social Security
is here for you.



www.SocialSecurity.gov



my Social Security Services

If you don't get benefits, you can —

- View, save, and print your online *Social Security Statement*.

If you do get benefits you can —

- Get your benefit verification letter;
- Check your benefit and payment information and your earnings record;
- Change your address and phone number; and
- Start or change your direct deposit.



John R. Doe | [Sign Out](#)

Text Size | [Accessibility Help](#)



my Social Security

[My Home](#)

[Help Center](#)

[Security Settings](#)

[Overview](#)

[Estimated Benefits](#)

[Earnings Record](#)

Welcome, John! You last signed in on March 07, 2013 at 9:47AM EST.

Social Security Statement



A Message from the Acting Commissioner:

- [+ What Social Security means to you...](#)
- [+ About Social Security's future...](#)
- [+ Learn more about Social Security...](#)

Estimated Benefit at Full Retirement age (66):

\$1,158 a month

[▶ View Estimated Benefits](#)

Last Reported Earnings:

\$5,330 in 2011

[▶ View Earnings Record](#)



[Print / Save Your Full Statement](#)

Get a copy of your Statement information in a convenient, print-friendly format.

Social Security Number:
xxx-xx-0000

Date of Birth:
September 23, 1948

Your Email address:
test@ssa.gov

[Update Email Address](#)

Online Social Security Statement

Estimated Benefits



About Your Estimated Benefits

- + How you qualify for benefits...
- + How we estimated your benefits...
- + If you work in a job where you don't pay Social Security tax...

Retirement

You have earned enough credits to qualify for retirement benefits. At your current earnings rate, your estimated payment would be:

At full retirement age (66):	\$869 a month
At age 70:	\$1,147 a month
At early retirement age (62):	\$655 a month

Your estimates are based on the assumption that you will earn \$0 a year from now through retirement.

Disability

You have worked enough credits to qualify for disability benefits.

If you become disabled right now your estimated payment would be:	\$909 a month
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[Apply Online for Disability](#)

Family

If you get retirement or disability benefits, your spouse and children also may qualify for benefits.

More Information

- [? About Social Security & Medicare](#)
- [? Before you decide to retire...](#)
- [? Publications and contact information...](#)



Thinking of retiring?
Some things to consider

Survivors

You have enough credits for your family to qualify for survivor benefits. If you die this year, certain members of your family may be eligible for these benefits:

Your child:	\$681 a month
Your spouse who is caring for your child:	\$681 a month
Your spouse (starting at full retirement age):	\$909 a month

Your total family benefits cannot be more than \$1,363 a month.

Your spouse or minor child may be eligible for a special one-time death benefit of \$255.

Medicare

You have worked enough to qualify for Medicare at age 65. Even if you do not retire at age 65 be sure to contact Social Security three months before your 65th birthday to enroll in Medicare.



[Print / Save Your Full Statement](#)

Get a copy of your Statement information in a convenient, print-friendly format.



Earnings Record



Your benefits are based on your earnings. If our records are wrong, you may not receive all the benefits to which you're entitled.

- + Review your earnings record carefully...
- + Limits on taxable earnings for Social Security...
- + Contact us about errors...

If you made any adjustments to your earnings record when filing your claim or appeal, the information below may not yet reflect your changes.

Work Year	Taxed Social Security Earnings	Taxed Medicare Earnings
2012	Not yet recorded	Not yet recorded
2011	\$19,407	\$19,407
2010	\$19,940	\$19,940
2009	\$20,604	\$20,604
2008	\$18,768	\$18,768
2007	\$17,465	\$17,465
2006	\$16,672	\$16,672
2005	\$14,976	\$14,976
2004	\$13,874	\$13,874
2003	\$13,587	\$13,587
2002	\$13,821	\$13,821
2001	\$11,611	\$11,611
2000	\$10,605	\$10,605
1999	\$9,902	\$9,902
1998	\$9,074	\$9,074
1997	\$5,220	\$5,220
1996	\$2,088	\$2,088
1995	\$2,486	\$2,486



Your Online *Social Security Statement* Provides

- Estimates of the retirement and disability benefits you may receive;
- Estimates of benefits your family may get when you receive Social Security or die;
- A list of your lifetime earnings according to Social Security's records;
- The estimated Social Security and Medicare taxes you've paid;
- Information about qualifying and signing up for Medicare; and
- A printable version of your *Social Security Statement*.

Check Your Benefit And Payment Information (Benefit And Payment Details)



My Home **Help Center** Security Settings

Overview **Benefit & Payment Details** Earnings Record My Profile

Benefit Details

[Print this page](#)

Benefits	Status
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Security (Retirement) Monthly Benefit Amount: \$529.00 (before any deductions) Payment Schedule: 3rd of the month Next Payment Date: March 1, 2013	Active
<input type="checkbox"/> SSI (Age) Monthly Benefit Amount: \$233.00 (before any deductions) Payment Schedule: 1st of the month Next Payment Date: March 1, 2013	Active
<input type="checkbox"/> Medicare The following information should not be used as proof of coverage. It is provided by the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and may not reflect recent updates.	Enrolled

Part A (Hospital Insurance)
Coverage Started: March 2009
Monthly Premium: \$0.00 (as of March 2009)

Part B (Medical Insurance)
Coverage Started: March 2009
Monthly Premium: \$0.00 (as of June 2009)

Part C (Medicare Advantage)
Please contact Medicare for the status of your enrollment.

Part D (Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage)
Please contact Medicare for the status of your enrollment.

[Request a Replacement Medicare Card](#)

Payment Method: Direct Deposit

Your monthly payments will be deposited to your account automatically.

[View Direct Deposit Info](#)



Check Your Benefit And Payment Information (Benefit And Payment Details)

My Home | Help Center | Security Settings

Overview | Benefit & Payment Details | Earnings Record | My Profile

Benefit Details

Benefits	Status
+ Social Security (Retirement)	Active
+ SSI (Age)	Active
+ Medicare	Enrolled

[Get a Benefit Verification Letter](#)
Need proof that you receive Social Security benefits? Here's your official letter.

Payment Details

Payment History | Overpayments

Your **monthly payment amount can change** depending on the types of benefits you receive, as well as any adjustments in your premiums or deductions.

Showing 1-12 of 42 << First < Prev 1 2 3 4 Next > Last >>

Date	Payment Type	Amount
02/01/2013	+ Social Security (Retirement)	\$529.00
02/01/2013	+ SSI (Age)	\$233.00
02/01/2013	SSI (Age)	\$233.00
01/03/2013	Social Security (Retirement)	\$529.00
12/31/2012	SSI (Age)	\$221.00
12/03/2012	Social Security (Retirement)	\$520.00
11/30/2012	SSI (Age)	\$221.00
11/02/2012	Social Security (Retirement)	\$520.00

Payment Type

- Social Security (Retirement)

How we calculated this payment...

Monthly Benefit Amount:	\$529.00
Credits & Adjustments:	\$0.00
Medicare Premium(s):	-\$0.00
Overpayment Withholding:	-\$0.00
Other Deductions:	-\$0.00
Total Payment:	\$529.00

- SSI (Age)

How we calculated this payment...

Monthly Benefit Amount:	\$233.00
Overpayment Withholding:	-\$0.00
Total Payment:	\$233.00

Check Your Benefit And Payment Information (My Profile)



Social Security beneficiaries only.

➤ Change your address and phone number.

➤ Start or Change your direct deposit.

My Home | Help Center | Security Settings

Overview | Benefit & Payment Details | Earnings Record | My Profile

Personal Information

Your Name: Ella M. Cota
Social Security Number: XXX-XX-6203
Date of Birth: July 02, 1948

Your Address & Phone Number:

Address	Phone Number	For Benefit...
7B TEMPLEWOOD CT RUTLAND, VT 05701	(802) 772-7140	Social Security (Disability), Social Security (Survivors), Medicare

[Update Contact Information](#)

Your Email Address: komala.radhak@ssa.gov [Update Email Address](#)

Direct Deposit Information

With Direct Deposit, your money will go automatically into your account every month. You don't have to wait for a check in the mail or go to your bank to deposit your money. It's safe, quick, and convenient.

Payment/Account Information	For Benefit...
Direct Deposit to: HERITAGE FAMILY CR. UNION Checking; Account Number: x1008 (Last 4 digits)	Social Security (Disability), Social Security (Survivors)

[Update Direct Deposit](#)

More Information

- How do I correct or update my name or date of birth?
- How do I request a replacement Social Security card?
- How do I update my contact info if I have special needs as a blind or visually impaired user?

More Information

- [Go to Security Settings](#)

Your security settings allows you to view or update your:

- security options,
- password, and
- password reset questions.



Social Security

Official Social Security Website

[Accessibility](#) · [Contact Us](#) · [FAQs](#) · [Español](#) · [Other Languages](#) · [Sign In](#)

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[Numbers & Cards](#)

[Benefits](#)

[Information for...](#)

[Business & Government](#)

[Our Agency](#)



Prepare for your Someday

Join the millions and discover your benefits. Open a **my Social Security** account.



Check out your *Social Security Statement*, change your address & manage your benefits.



Online Services

Whether you are applying for or receiving benefits, learn what you can do online.



Retirement Estimator

Calculate your benefits based on your actual Social Security earnings record & apply online.



Disability Facts

Learn more about the Faces and Facts of Disability.



You Can Work & Still Receive Benefits

<u>If You Are</u>	<u>You Can Make Up To</u>	<u>If You Make More, Some Benefits Will Be Withheld</u>
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Under Full Retirement Age

\$15,480/yr. (\$1,290/mo.)

\$1 for every \$2

The Year Full Retirement Age is Reached

\$41,400/yr. (\$3,450/mo.)

\$1 for every \$3

Month of Full Retirement Age and Above

No Limit

No Limit



Note: If some of your retirement benefits are withheld because of your earnings, your benefits will be increased starting at your full retirement age to take into account those months in which benefits were withheld.



How Do I Apply for Retirement Benefits?

- Apply online at www.socialsecurity.gov
It is the most convenient way to apply;
- Call Social Security to schedule an appointment
1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778); or
- Apply at your local Social Security office.



Who Can Get Survivors Benefits?

Your Child if:

- **Not married under age 18** (under 19 if still in high school)
- **Not married and disabled before age 22**

Widow or Widower:

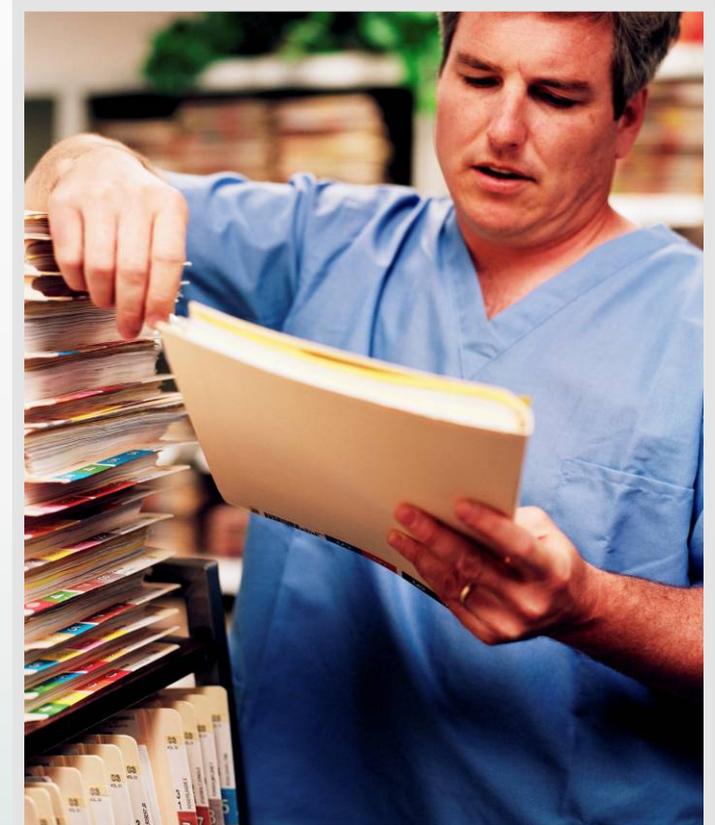
- **Full benefits at full retirement age**
- **Reduced benefits at age 60**
- **If disabled as early as age 50**
- **At any age if caring for child under 16 or disabled**
- **Remarriage after age 60 (50 if disabled)**
- **Divorced widows/widowers may qualify**



Social Security's Disability Definition:

A medical condition or combination of impairments preventing substantial work for at least 12 months, or expected to result in death.

The determination also considers age, education & work experience.





Who Can Get Disability Benefits?

Worker

- **Must have paid into Social Security five out of last 10 years**
- **For younger workers, under age 31 less work is required**

Spouse

- **At age 62**
- **At any age if caring for child under 16 or disabled**
- **Divorced spouses may qualify**





Your Benefits Can Be Taxable

- **About 1/3 of people who get Social Security pay income taxes on their benefits.**
- **At the end of each year, you'll receive a *Social Security Benefit Statement* (Form SSA-1099). Use this statement to complete your Federal income tax return to find out if you have to pay taxes on your benefit.**



Who Can Get Medicare ?

65 & older

-or-

24 months after entitlement to Social Security disability benefits

-or-

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

-or-

Permanent kidney failure and receive maintenance dialysis or a kidney transplant



When Can I Sign Up for Medicare Part B?

Medicare Enrollment Periods:

- **Initial – at age 65**
- **Special – if still working**
- **General – January-March**



Medicare Coverage

Part A - Hospital Insurance

- Covers most inpatient hospital expenses
- 2014 Deductible \$1,216

Part B - Medical Insurance

- Covers 80% doctor bills & other outpatient medical expenses after 1st \$147 in approved charges
- 2013 Standard Monthly Premium **\$104.90**

Part D - Medicare Prescription Drug Plan

- Covers a major portion of prescription drug costs for Medicare beneficiaries
- Enroll With Medicare prescription drug provider not SSA



Medicare Part C

Part C – Medicare Advantage Plans

- Health plan options offered by Medicare-approved private insurance companies
- When you join a Medicare advantage plan, you can get the benefits and services covered under Part A, Part B, and in most plans, Part D



For More Medicare Information

1-800-MEDICARE

(1-800-633-4227)

TTY 1-877-486-2048

www.medicare.gov

www.SocialSecurity.gov



Social Security's Online Services

Online Services for before or after you receive benefits

- **My Social Security Account**
- **Retirement Estimator**
- **Social Security Statement**
- **Retirement & Disability Applications**
- **Medicare Online**
- **Apply for Extra Help With Medicare Drug Plan Costs**
- **Retirement/Survivors/Disability Planner**
- **Change of Address**
- **Medicare Card Replacements**
- **Request a Benefit Verification Letter**
- **Start or Change Direct Deposit**

www.SocialSecurity.gov