

## **Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)**

### **What is Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)?**

Social Security Disability is a government program that gives money to people who cannot work because of a medical issue that is expected to last at least one year or result in death.

### **How it is decided that you are disabled?**

The information you send will be reviewed by the Social Security Administration as follows:

- Review of your application to make sure you meet basic requirements.
- Review of information about your medical issue (when it started, the effects, and what treatments you have received) from doctors, hospitals and clinics.
- Review to find out if you can do any other type of work.

### **How and when you should apply?**

- Apply as soon as you become disabled. It can take 3 to 5 months for approval.
- You receive benefits after you have been disabled for five calendar months in a row. You will not be paid for any of those 5 months.
- You can apply in one of these three ways:
  - ~ Online at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
  - ~ Call 1-800-772-1213
  - ~ At your local Social Security Administration Office

### **Examples of what you need to apply**

- Social Security number
- Birth certificate
- Names, addresses and phone numbers of all doctors, caseworkers, hospitals, and clinics and dates of your visits
- Medical records from your doctors, therapists, hospitals, clinics, and caseworkers
- A copy of your most recent W-2 Form or, if you are self-employed, your federal tax return for the past year
- Laboratory results, test results, and pathology reports
- A summary of where you worked and the kind of work you did
- Names and doses of all medicines

**Please go to [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) for full detailed information.**