

SSI Age-18 Redetermination

Fact Sheet 2020

How does SSI work for children under 18?

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for a child is based on their disability, as well as their parent's income and assets. In order to qualify, a child's disability must significantly limit their activities and must have lasted or be expected to last at least one year, or is expected to result in death.

What happens when I turn 18?

If you receive SSI as a child and wish to continue receiving it as an adult, you must qualify under the adult medical standards. **Note:** Only *your* income and assets will be considered.

What are the steps of the Age-18 Redetermination process?

1. Before your 19th birthday, Social Security should send you a letter requesting you participate in the Age-18 Redetermination process. If not, it is recommended you initiate this process with your local Social Security office.
2. Social Security will require you to attend an initial eligibility interview to gather information about your disability and how it impacts your ability to work.
3. You must gather medical and school information and provide it to your local Social Security office, so it can be reviewed by the state agency that determines eligibility for SSI.
4. You may be required to attend a medical consultation for additional information.
5. You will be notified by mail regarding the decision of your redetermination.

What are the possible outcomes?

You can be found eligible for SSI as an adult. Your cash benefits will continue, however, the amount may change based on your living situation and marital status. Also, you will automatically receive MassHealth Standard.

- You can be denied, but you will be entitled to two more cash payments following the date of the decision letter.
- Your benefits can continue under Section 301.

What is Section 301?

Section 301 is a special provision that continues SSI for individuals denied under the Age-18 Redetermination, who have a goal for self-sufficiency, and have an active:

- Individual Education Plan (IEP), or
- Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) with a State Vocational Rehabilitation program, or
- Individual Work Plan (IWP) with an Employment Network, or are
- Receiving other employment support services.

If granted, you will keep your benefits until you graduate from the program, or start working.

Additional Points to Consider:

- Do you still need help managing your SSI?
 - If so, visit www.ssa.gov/payee/.
- Do you have an academic and/or career goal?
 - If so, reference the *SSI Benefits & Related Work Incentives Fact Sheet* at www.workwithoutlimits.org/benefits-counseling/

For more information about **Work Without Limits Benefits Counseling** contact

1-877-YES-WORK (1-877-937-9675) or visit <http://www.workwithoutlimits.org/benefits-counseling/>