



Securing today  
and tomorrow



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# Michigan Updates

A Social Security Newsletter highlighting  
Social Security Disability (SSDI) and  
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

**Social Security is with you  
throughout life's journey**

**May 2017**

## New Security Features for *my Social Security*

On June 10, 2017, Social Security is adding enhanced security to protect your and your clients' privacy as *my Social Security* users. This is in addition to the first layer of security, a username and password. Adding security measures to safeguard your clients' information — but making them easy to use — is a vital part of keeping your clients safe and secure.

When your client signs in to their personal *my Social Security* account at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount) with their username and password, we will ask them to add their email address or a text-enabled cell phone number.

Then, each time your client signs in to their account, they will complete two steps:

- Step 1: Enter their username and password.
- Step 2: Enter the security code we send by text message or email, depending on their choice (cell phone provider text message and data rates may apply).



In addition to these security enhancements, we'll also upgrade the look and feel of *my Social Security* to create an enhanced customer experience. The *my Social Security* portal will automatically adjust to the size of the screen and kind of device your client is using — such as a tablet, smart phone, or computer. No matter what type of device they choose, your client will have full, easy-to-use access to their personal *my Social Security* account.

## Social Security's 2017 Red Book is here!

[www.socialsecurity.gov/redbook/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/redbook/)

This is our free guide to employment supports for people who receive Social Security disability benefits, Supplemental Security Income, or both. It explains our work incentives, how working can affect benefits, where to find local services, and more.

Educators, rehabilitation specialists, and counselors rely on this publication every year. Whether your clients are thinking about working now or may want to work in the future, the Red Book can help them consider the possibilities.

Please tell your members and audiences that the 2017 edition of the Red Book is available on our [website](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/redbook/).

For a free printed copy of the 2017 Red Book, please contact:

By Mail:

Social Security Administration  
Office of Supply and Warehouse Management  
Requisition and Quality Control Team  
6401 Security Boulevard  
2508 Robert M. Ball Building  
Baltimore, MD 21235-6301

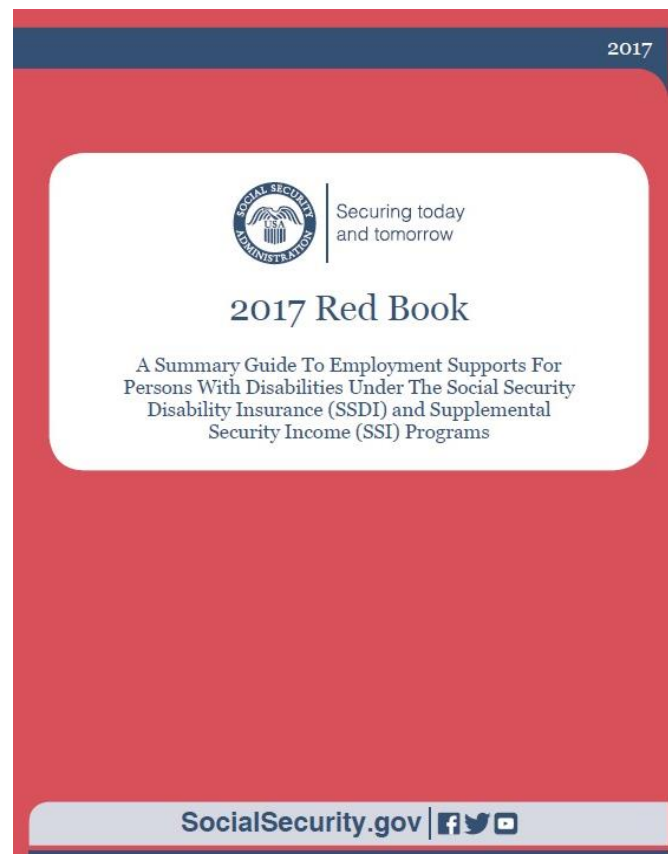
By Email, Phone, or Fax:

Email:

[DCBFQM.OFLM.OLM.RQCT.Orders@ssa.gov](mailto:DCBFQM.OFLM.OLM.RQCT.Orders@ssa.gov)

Phone: (410) 965-2039

Fax: (410) 965-2037



Thank you for your partnership and your dedication to the people we serve! With your organization at our side, Social Security is here to help secure today and tomorrow.

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*Hillary Kanady is the Area Work Incentive Coordinator for Social Security located in Grand Rapids MI. If you have a client that you are assisting with returning to work and have questions or you have an event or training need, contact Hillary Kanady at [hillary.kanady@ssa.gov](mailto:hillary.kanady@ssa.gov)*

**Ticket to Work for People with a Mental Illness:  
Support on Your Journey to Employment**

**Wednesday, May 24, 2017**

**3 – 4:30 p.m. EST**

**To Register: <https://www.choosework.net/webinar/>**

Do you have clients that are age 18 through 64, receive Social Security Disability benefits (SSI or SSDI), and want to make more money through work?

Ticket to Work can provide the support they need!

Join us on **May 24, 2017**, for the next WISE webinar. We will present information on the Ticket to Work program and Work Incentives.

We will also discuss:

- The role of employment in your recovery;
- The therapeutic, financial and social benefits of work; and
- The importance of receiving long-term employment supports after you start working.

Register online at [www.choosework.net/wise](http://www.choosework.net/wise) or call **1-866-968-7842** or **1-866-833-2967 (TTY)**.

You will receive a registration confirmation message with instructions on how to log in to the webinar. Please be sure to check your spam folder.

**Questions?**

Email us  
at [support@choosework.net](mailto:support@choosework.net) or call 1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY).

- Follow us on [Facebook!](#)
- Follow us on [Twitter!](#)

Watch Ticket to Work Success Stories  
on [YouTube](#)



## Application Status Online

If your client applied for Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits, or have a pending reconsideration or hearing request, they can log in or create a **my Social Security** account to check the [Status of Their Application](#) online.

The application status shows:

- Their Re-entry number for a pending online benefit application or online appeal that has not been submitted;
- The date we received their application or appeal;
- Scheduled Hearing date and time;
- Current claim or appeal location including the address of the office processing your application; and
- If a decision has been made.

They cannot check the status of their application online if they do not have a **my Social Security** account.

The More Info Tab provides information that is more detailed. What a great way to follow the status of an application!

### Your Benefit Applications

Benefit Type	Level	Date Started	Status	More Info
Social Security (Disability)	Hearing	05/06/2016	Processing	<a href="#">▶ View Scheduled Hearing</a>
SSI (Disability)	Hearing	05/06/2016	Processing	<a href="#">▶ View Scheduled Hearing</a>

**They just need to create a **my Social Security** account at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount)**

## Future Michigan Updates

If you would like to be on the mailing list to receive future Michigan Updates, or if you would like to be removed from the mailing list, please send an email to [vonda.vantil@ssa.gov](mailto:vonda.vantil@ssa.gov)

**Did you know that your clients can check to see if a decision has been made on their application?**