

**Subject:** URBAN: How to document Social Security Income

**From:** "Potafiy, Adam" <adam@ufareverse.com>

**Date:** 8/12/2015 11:14 AM

**To:** "Potafiy, Adam" <adam@ufareverse.com>

Good morning,

I was supposed to have sent this yesterday... Here's your **Tuesday tip** on a Wednesday! There has been a lot of confusion surrounding SSA, so this is the first tip we would like to share.

[Pricing also attached – unchanged]

## How to document Social Security Income

### **Social Security Retirement Income**

When verifying a borrower's **Social Security retirement income**, you will need to obtain the below documentation from the borrower:

#### **Group A - One of the following to document the income is likely to continue (examples attached):**

- SSA Awards Letter
- SSA Budget Letter
- SSA Benefit Letter

#### **Group B - One of the following to document income amount:**

- Copy of the borrower's Social Security benefit statement (SSA-1099/104S)
- Federal tax returns
- Most recent bank statement reflecting income from the Social Security Administration
- A proof of income letter (Budget or Benefit Letter) that indicates income from the Social Security Administration

**NOTE:** If a document from **Group A** is provided, nothing from **Group B** is required. If a document from **Group B** is provided, a document from **Group A** is also required to document the likelihood of continuance.

### **Social Security Disability and Supplemental Income**

For Social Security Disability and Supplement Income, one document from Group B is required AND the SSA Awards Letter or SSA Budget Letter from Group A. The Benefit Letter will NOT document the likelihood of continuance for these types of income.

### **To Obtain Documentation Online**

This documentation can be obtained by the borrower by logging into the Social Security Administration website, [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), and following the below steps:

1. Go to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)
2. Click Sign In at top right hand side of the screen
3. Click Create An Account in the first box on the left side of the screen
4. Agree to the Terms of Service
5. Complete the information request on the next three screens
  - Verify your Identity

- Secure your Identity
  - Create your Account
6. Once you are logged in you will see a dashboard with an option to “Get a Benefit Verification Letter”
  7. You can also get a copy of your Social Security statement online on the same screen

## Resources

For additional information on Social Security Income, please review our [Social Security Income Job Aid](#).

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— Attachments: —

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SS Awards Letter.pdf	184 KB
SSA Budget Letter.pdf	53.3 KB
SS Benefit Letter.pdf	230 KB
Broker Standard Pricing as of 2015-8-12.pdf	193 KB

Social Security Administration

**Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance**

Notice of Award

Miscellaneous Program Service Center  
225 E. Oak Street  
Central City, ST 00000

Date:

Claim Number: 123-45-6789A

JOHN G. BENEFICIARY

101 MAIN STREET

ANYTOWN, ST 00001

You are entitled to monthly retirement benefits beginning February 1989.

**What We Will Pay And When**

- You will receive \$286 for February 1989 around March 3, 1989.
- After that you will receive \$286 each month.

**Other Social Security Benefits**

The benefits described in this letter is the only one you can receive from Social Security. If you think you might qualify for another kind of Social Security benefit in the future, you will have to file another application.

**Do You Think We Are Wrong?**

If you think we are wrong, you have the right to appeal. We will correct any mistakes and will look at any new facts you have. A person who did not make the first decision will decide your case.

- You have 60 days to ask for an appeal.
- The 60 days start the day after you get this letter.
- You must have a good reason if you wait more than 60 days to ask for an appeal.

## **Your Responsibilities**

Your benefits are based on the information you gave us. If this information changes, it could affect your benefits. For this reason, it is important that you report changes to us right away.

We have enclosed a pamphlet, "Your Social Security Rights and Responsibilities." It tells you what you must be reported and how to report. Please be sure to read the part of the pamphlet which explains how work could changes your payments.

## **If You Have Any Questions**

If you have any questions, you may call us at 1-800-2345-SSA. We can answer most questions over the phone. You can also write any Social Security office. The office that serves your area is located at:

Street address

City, State Zip

If you do call or visit an office, please have this letter with you. It will help us answer your questions. Also, if you plan to visit an office, you may call ahead to make an appointment at the office. This will help us serve you more quickly when you arrive at the office.

Gwendolyn S. King  
Commissioner of Social Security

Enclosure(s):

Pub 05-10077

# Your New Benefit Amount

0798855

BENEFICIARY'S NAME:

Your Social Security benefits will increase by 1.7 percent in 2015 because of a rise in the cost of living. **You can use this letter when you need proof of your benefit amount to receive food, rent, or energy assistance; bank loans; or for other business.** Keep this letter with your important financial records.

## How Much Will I Get And When?

- Your monthly amount (before deductions) is \$1,707.90
- The amount we deduct for Medicare medical insurance is \$104.90  
(If you did not have Medicare as of Nov. 20, 2014,  
or if someone else pays your premium, we show \$0.00.)
- The amount we deduct for your Medicare prescription drug plan is \$0.00  
(If you did not elect withholding as of Nov. 1, 2014, we show \$0.00.)
- The amount we deduct for voluntary Federal tax withholding is \$112.20  
(If you did not elect voluntary tax withholding as of  
Nov. 20, 2014, we show \$0.00.)
- After we take any other deductions, you will receive \$1,490.80  
on or about Jan. 14, 2015.

If you disagree with any of these amounts, you must write to us within 60 days from the date you receive this letter. We would be happy to review the amounts.

You may receive your benefits through direct deposit, a Direct Express® card, or an Electronic Transfer Account. If you still receive a paper check and want to switch to an electronic payment, please visit the Department of the Treasury's Go Direct website at [www.godirect.org](http://www.godirect.org).

## What If I Have Questions?

Please visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) for more information and a variety of online services. You also can call **1-800-772-1213** and speak to a representative from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Recorded information and services are available 24 hours a day. Our lines are busiest early in the week, early in the month, as well as during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day; it is best to call at other times. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, call our TTY number, **1-800-325-0778**. If you are outside the United States, you can contact any U.S. embassy or consulate office. Please have your Social Security claim number available when you call or visit and include it on any letter you send to Social Security. If you are inside the United States and need assistance of any kind, you can visit your local office.

0798855

SUITE 100  
612 S JEFFERSON STREET  
ROANOKE VA

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### **Your Benefit Amount**

We are writing to tell you that your Social Security benefits will increase by 1.7 percent in 2015. Please check the other side of this letter to learn how this affects you.

### **What If I Worked In 2014?**

If you were "full" retirement age (currently age 66) or older throughout the year, you may keep all of your benefits no matter how much you earn.

But, if you were younger than full retirement age at any time during the year, there is a limit to how much you can earn before we reduce your benefits.

- **If you were younger than full retirement age all year in 2014**, the earnings limit is \$15,480. We must deduct \$1 from your benefits for each \$2 you earned over \$15,480.
- **If you reached full retirement age during 2014**, the earnings limit is \$41,400. We must deduct \$1 from your benefits for each \$3 you earned over \$41,400 until the month you turned age 66.

We paid you benefits in 2014 based on the amount of money you estimated you would make. When your employer(s) reports your actual earnings for 2014 to us, we will adjust your benefits if necessary. The earnings your employer reports are the amount that will be on the W-2(s) you will receive. If the earnings on your W-2(s) for 2014 include money you earned in another year, you should contact us before April 15 to let us know.

### **What If I Work In 2015?**

The earnings limit for workers who are younger than "full" retirement age will be \$15,720. The earnings limit for people turning 66 in 2015 will be \$41,880. We will reduce your benefits if you earn more than these limits. If you expect to earn more in 2015, you should tell us right away so we can pay you correctly. This does not mean you must try to limit your earnings. If we withhold some of your benefits because you continue to work, we will pay you a higher monthly benefit amount when you reach your full retirement age. There is no limit on earnings if you are full retirement age or older for the entire year.

### **What If I Also Get Supplemental Security Income (SSI)?**

If you get SSI, you must report all of your earnings to us. Call **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**) or use our smartphone SSI Mobile Wage Reporting Application. Contact your local office to learn more.

### **Rules For Certain Family Members**

If you receive benefits as a widow, widower, parent, or child and you marry or remarry, you must let us know. If you are a custodial parent, you also must let us know if a child who receives benefits no longer lives with you. If a stepchild receives benefits based on your work and you and the stepchild's parent divorce, you must report the divorce to us. We must stop the stepchild's benefits the month after the divorce becomes final.

### **To Access my Social Security Online Services**

Go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount) to create a *my Social Security* online account to check your benefits. You also can change your address or telephone number, start or change direct deposit of your benefits, and get a benefit verification letter.

### **Benefits For Same-Sex Couples**

We now are able to pay benefits to more same-sex couples. We encourage people to contact us to find out if they or their children are eligible for benefits or a different benefit amount. Learn more at [www.socialsecurity.gov/same-sex-couples](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/same-sex-couples).

Need health insurance or know someone who does? Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, more Americans now qualify to get coverage that fits their needs and budgets. Visit the Health Insurance Marketplace at [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov) or call **1-800-318-2596** (TTY **1-855-889-4325**) to get more information. Please note: Medicare is not part of the Health Insurance Marketplace. If you have Medicare, you do not need to do anything.

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### **Health Insurance For Children**

If you have children or grandchildren younger than age 19 who are not covered by health insurance, the Children's Health Insurance Program may help. To find out more, visit [www.insurekidsnow.gov](http://www.insurekidsnow.gov) or call **1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669)**.

### **Help For Elders**

The Eldercare Locator is a free public service of the U.S. Administration on Aging. By calling **1-800-677-1116**, or visiting [www.eldercare.gov](http://www.eldercare.gov), you can connect with a specialist in your area who can explain programs that give financial, employment, legal, and caregiving help to seniors.

### **Medicare Information**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services recently mailed the *Medicare & You 2015* handbook to all households with Medicare.

If you get Medicare and have limited resources and income, you may qualify for the Extra Help program. It can help pay your monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and co-payments for the Medicare prescription drug program. You can apply online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp) or call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**).

You also may qualify for the Medicare Savings Programs for help with other Medicare costs. These programs can help people with limited resources and income save more than \$1,200 a year by paying for their Medicare Part B (medical insurance) premiums. For some people, the Medicare Savings Programs also may pay for Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) premiums, if any, and Part A and B deductibles and co-payments. You can apply on your Extra Help application or contact your State or local Medicaid or social services office.

To learn about Medicare eligibility or enroll, visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/mediinfo.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/mediinfo.htm) or call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**).

For questions about Medicare coverage and billing, visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)** (TTY **1-877-486-2048**). Your State Health Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program (SHIP) also can answer Medicare questions. Your local SHIP contact information is in the back of your Medicare handbook.

### **Help Prevent Identity Theft**

Be aware of scams through the mail, Internet, telephone, or in person. You should be careful when someone asks for personal information, especially your Social Security number. To find out more, visit [www.usa.gov/topics/money/identity-theft/prevention.shtml](http://www.usa.gov/topics/money/identity-theft/prevention.shtml).

### **Suspect Social Security Fraud?**

Please visit <http://oig.ssa.gov/r> or call the Inspector General's Fraud Hotline at **1-800-269-0271** (TTY **1-866-501-2101**).

*Carolyn W. Colvin*

Carolyn W. Colvin  
Acting Commissioner



SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Date: July 16, 2015  
Claim Number: XXX-XX-

CHARLES  
1 E  
CHATSWORTH CA 91311-2442



You asked us for information from your record. The information that you requested is shown below. If you want anyone else to have this information, you may send them this letter.

Information About Current Social Security Benefits

Beginning December 2014, the full monthly  
Social Security benefit before any deductions is.....\$ 2219.90

We deduct \$104.90 for medical insurance premiums each month.

The regular monthly Social Security payment is.....\$ 2115.00  
(We must round down to the whole dollar.)

Social Security benefits for a given month are paid the following month. (For example, Social Security benefits for March are paid in April.)

Your Social Security benefits are paid on or about the second Wednesday of each month.

Type of Social Security Benefit Information

You are entitled to monthly retirement benefits.

SUSPECT SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD?

Please visit <http://oig.ssa.gov/r> or call the Inspector General's Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271 (TTY 1-866-501-2101).