



# VR Toolkit for SSI Youth

Tips, checklists, and tools to support successful work outcomes for SSI youth

<http://www.ssiyouthtoolkit.org>.

## [Appealing an SSI denial or termination](#)

- An appeal is available if the medical CDR or Age 18 Redetermination results in a termination of benefits.
- The SSI applicant or beneficiary will get a notice of termination.
- The notice will explain how to appeal and the time limits for appealing (generally 60 days after getting the notice).
- The notice will explain how to request that SSI continues during the appeal and the time limits for doing so (generally 10 days after getting the notice).
- When the appeal goes to an administrative law judge (ALJ), SSI can continue until the ALJ issues a written decision.

## [Knowing your state's SSI program](#)

- In 2019, minimum monthly base rate of \$771.
- To find out what current and past year FBR rates were/are, go to <https://www.ssa.gov/OACT/cola/SSlamts.html>
- To find out more about how your state supplements the federal benefit rate, go to <https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-11015.pdf>.
- Find out if Medicaid is automatic with SSI in your state.

## [Establishing financial eligibility](#)

- Part of two-part SSI eligibility test.
- Countable income and resources must be within SSI program limits.
- Other income, after subtracting income exclusions, gets subtracted from SSI base rate (i.e., federal benefit rate plus optional state supplement).
- SSI requires countable resource of no more than \$2,000.
- For children under age 18, a part of the parent(s)' income and resource may be counted to determine SSI eligibility and payment amount.
- At age 18, the SSI program no longer counts any part of the parent(s)' income and resources.

## The Medical Continuing Disability Review (CDR)

- One of two medical reviews all SSI youth may face.
- Most recipients will face a medical CDR every 3 to 5 years.
- Reviewer will look at medical records and other relevant records (including educational records for a child under 18) to determine if there is medical improvement.
- Even if there is medical improvement, SSI will continue unless the improvement means the individual no longer meets the disability criteria.
- If the review results in a termination of benefits, a written notice goes to the recipient explaining appeal rights.

## The Age 18 Redetermination

- One of two medical reviews all SSI youth may face.
- At age 18 the SSI beneficiary will have a redetermination to determine if he or she meets the adult standard of disability.
- Unlike the medical CDR which looks for medical improvement, the Age 18 Redetermination is considered a new, initial determination.
- If the review results in a termination of benefits, a written notice goes to the beneficiary explaining appeals right.

## Establishing disability

- Part of two-part SSI eligibility test.
  - Adults must establish they cannot work at substantial level.
  - Children under 18 must establish severe deficits in functional activities at school and at home.
  - Both adults and children can establish disability or statutory blindness with medical evidence alone if they meet criteria for a listed impairment.
- See <https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/AdultListings.htm> or <https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/ChildhoodListings.htm>.

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