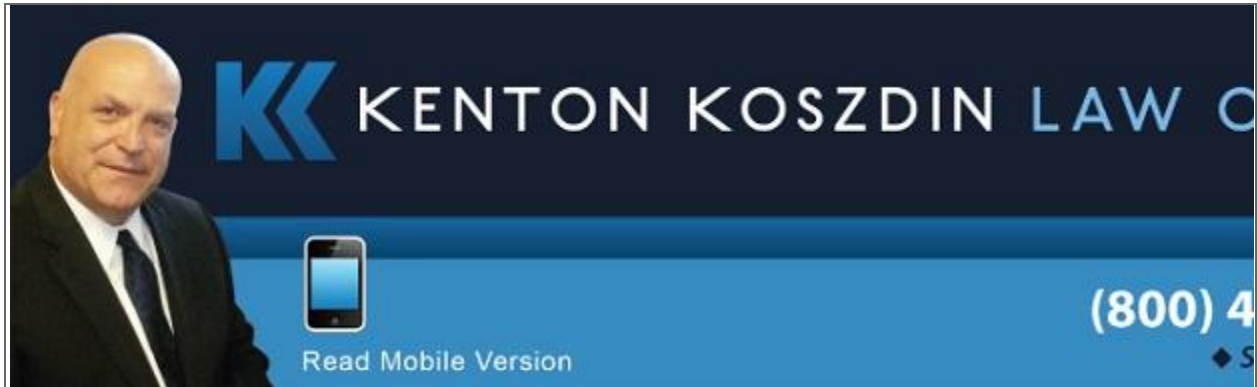


If email not displaying correctly? [View online version.](#)



March 2014

**Kenton Koszdin Law
Office**

6600 Sherman Way, #190
Van Nuys, CA 91406-3875

Phone: (818) 901-9999

Toll Free : (800) 438-7734



Social Security Disability Insurance—Can Non–U.S. Citizens Qualify?

A worker who is a non–U.S. citizen may be eligible to collect Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits.



Aliens who are permanent residents of or lawfully present in the U.S., and who have paid taxes into the Social Security system, are covered for disability benefits for services performed in the U.S. In order to collect SSDI benefits, the worker must be considered [disabled](#) and follow the same work credit earnings rules as a U.S. citizen.

Non–U.S. citizens must meet these additional requirements:

- If your Social Security number was assigned on

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WORKERS' COMPENSATION BLOG

VISIT OUR BLOG 

IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2
Eligibility for SSDI – Disability..

PAGE 3
continuation of Eligibility for...

PAGE 4
What's Happening in....

or after 1/2/2004, the assigned number must have been based on an authorization to work in the U.S., or you must have a B–1, D–1 or D–1 nonimmigrant visa; **and**

- For any month that you are claiming disability, you must show that you were legally present in the U.S. for that month in order to be paid disability benefits for that month.

The rules are complex, and complete information can be found at the [Social Security Disability Help website](#) and at any Social Security [office](#).

Qualifying for Supplemental Security Income

Aliens may be eligible to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), but these rules are even more complicated.

In order to qualify, a non–U.S. citizen must fit into one of eight “qualified alien” categories as defined by the [Social Security Administration](#). The worker must also meet one of the predefined “conditions” for eligibility.

More information and definitions of “qualified alien” and predefined “conditions” can be found at the [Social Security Disability Help website](#).

Get Help

Because of the complexity of determining eligibility for both SSDI and SSI for non–U.S. citizens, an attorney with the right experience can help. If you would like to

discuss your eligibility for SSDI, or that of a loved one, or would like to have assistance throughout the process of filing for benefits, please contact the legal team at the [Kenton Koszdin Law Office](#).



Eligibility for SSDI – Disability Must Be Total

Some benefit programs, such as Workers Compensation and the Veteran’s Administration, offer disability benefits for those who are partially disabled. However, to qualify for SSDI benefits, the worker’s disability must be total.

If you are able to work at a “substantial level” (generally defined in 2014 as earnings of at least \$1,070 per month), you will not qualify for SSDI payments.

The Social Security Administration’s disability test goes through these steps:

1. Are you working? If no, then:
2. Is your medical condition “severe” as defined by the state agency? In other words, does it limit your basic work activities for at least one year? If yes, then:
3. Are you able to perform your job? If no, then:
4. Can you do other work for which your medical condition, education, skills and work experience can qualify you? If no, then you may be determined eligible for SSDI benefits.

It's important to distinguish between a ***partial disability***, for which Workers Compensation and plans may pay their own benefits, and a ***partial benefit***. A partial SSDI benefit does not refer to your degree of disability, but rather to the amount of benefit you receive because SSDI benefits will be reduced by Workers Compensation and other government pensions.

If you or a loved one has been denied Social Security Disability benefits, it's important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. Call **800-438-7734** for your initial free consultation, either in our office or in the comfort of your own home. The Kenton Koszdin Law Office, [Social Security Disability attorney in Van Nuys](#), can help you navigate the complex appeal process for the best possible outcome for you and your family.

Residing Outside the U.S. May Affect SSDI and SSI Benefits

Generally, U.S. citizens living abroad may continue to receive their SSDI benefits if their country of residence is an "allowed country" for payment of Social Security benefits. For example, the SSA cannot send payments to Cuba, North Korea, Cambodia, Vietnam and most of the former Soviet Union republics. And there are special rules for non-citizens. For complete information, see the SSA publication "[Your Payments While You Are Outside the United States](#)", visit an SSA office or call 1-800-772-1213.

Of course, if you are collecting SSDI benefits while you reside in another country, you must return to the U.S. for periodic disability reviews or your benefits will stop.

Supplemental Security Income payments stop once you have been out of the U.S. for 30 days, and payments will not be reinstated until you have been back for 30 days.

Recipe of the Month:

Seven Layer Taco Dip



Here's a great recipe just in time for March madness!

Ingredients

- 1 (1 ounce) package taco seasoning mix
- 1 (16 ounce) can refried beans
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 (16 ounce) container sour cream
- 1 (16 ounce) jar salsa
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 bunch chopped green onions
- 1 small head iceberg lettuce, shredded
- 1 (6 ounce) can sliced black olives, drained
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese

Directions:

1. In a medium bowl, blend the taco seasoning mix and refried beans. Spread the mixture onto a large serving platter.
2. Mix the sour cream and cream cheese in a medium bowl. Spread over the

refried beans.

3. Top the layers with salsa. Place a layer of tomato, green bell pepper, green onions and lettuce over the salsa, and top with Cheddar cheese. Garnish with black olives.
4. Serve with tortilla chips.

What's Happening in Southern California

Apr 6, 2014

Los Angeles Challenge 2014: The Ultimate Urban Scavenger Race Border Grill, Los Angeles

Apr 11 – 13, 2014

OC Fair Imaginology
The OC Fair & Event Center, Costa Mesa

Apr 11 – 13, 2014

LA Hacks
Pauley Pavilion, Los Angeles

Apr 11 – 14, 2014

Spring Citrus Fair
La Habra Boulevard, La Habra

Apr 13, 2014

Los Angeles AVOCADO Festival
La Placita Olvera, Los Angeles

Apr 17, 2014

Silicon Beach Young Professionals

Apr 23, 2014

LAZR Trade Show – Open Market
The New Mart, Los Angeles

Apr 24 – May 1, 2014

Newport Film Festival
Newport Beach

Apr 26, 2014

The Raw Food World Tour
Peace Yoga Gallery, Los Angeles

Apr 27, 2014

Atwater Village Beer, Wine & Food Festival
Link N Hops, Los Angeles

Apr 27, 2014

2nd Annual Gourmet Cupcakes & Champagne Fundraiser:
Sponsored by The Hirshberg Foundation
The Federal Bar, Los Angeles

Mixer: Sponsored by Google Q's Billiard Club & Restaurant, Los Angeles

Apr 19 – 20, 2014

Downtown Burbank Arts Festival
Downtown Burbank, Los Angeles

Apr 28, 2014

Los Angeles Job Fair
Radisson hotel at Los Angeles Airport



Mailing List



Unsubscribe From Our
Mailing List Please [Click
Here](#)



Sign up for
Newsletter Please
[Click Here](#)



Forward to Friend
Please [Click Here](#)



Comment on
Newsletter Please
[Click Here](#)

Thanks for reading!