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How Long Do SSDI Benefits Last, and Can They Be Suspended?



If you or a loved one is receiving <u>Social Security</u> <u>Disability Benefits (SSDI)</u>, your payments will continue as long as you are unable to work and your medical condition has not improved.

Periodic Disability Review



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WORKERS' COMPENSATION BLOG

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What's Happening in Southern California The Social Security Administration (SSA) periodically <u>reviews</u> each case. If your condition has improved so that you are no longer disabled, SSDI benefits will cease.

The review period varies and is based on your health outlook based on your condition:

- If improvement is expected, the first review will be 6 to 18 months after SSDI benefits begin.
- Where improvement is possible, the first review will be at least 3 years after you become disabled.
- If improvement is not expected, a review will not occur before 7 years after your disability date.

When you attain <u>full Social Security retirement age</u>, disability benefits convert to Social Security retirement benefits, and there are no more disability reviews.

Returning to Work and Overpayments

Continuing eligibility for SSDI benefits if you return to work depends on your earnings amount. If you are able to work at a "substantial level," defined in 2014 as earnings of \$1,070 or more per month, your SSDI payments will be suspended.

However, the SSA allows you to work on a trial basis and still collect full SSDI benefits, as long as you report your work activity to the SSA and remain disabled. You can find complete program details in the SSA brochure "Working While Disabled – How

We Can Help."

Sometimes trial work payments result in an overpayment to the worker, which the SSA will demand back. You are entitled to appeal against the overpayment to prevent burdensome repayments.

Living Out of the U.S.

If you relocate to certain countries, your SSDI benefits may be suspended. These circumstances are very limited, and you can find a list at the Social Security Administration (SSA) webpage on this topic.

You have the right to <u>appeal</u> an SSA decision to suspend or reduce your disability benefits. Call us today at **800–438–7734** for a free review of your disability case.

Celebrate Canines that Live to Serve

September is National Service Dog Month, formerly known as National Guide Dog Month. The celebration's new name recognizes the expanded service roles that these amazing animals offer. Not only for the visually impaired, service dogs assist those with hearing impairments, seizures, mental illness, diabetes, autism and more.



Service dogs are more than pets – they are partners. They are trained like police dogs are trained and are taught specifically how to help and guide their masters. Training begins as a puppy, where the dog learns socialization, obedience and manners.

At one year of age, the dogs work with a professional trainer to learn how to serve people with specific needs. For example:

- a dog that will be placed with a visually impaired person will learn how to guide him across the street
- a service dog that will serve a hearing impaired owner will be taught to alert his master if the doorbell rings.

Finally, the dog and its owner spend at least four weeks training together.

Service dogs are trained to respond to their owners' commands. They know how to deal with traffic, always walk in a straight line unless avoiding obstacles, and even can judge height and width so their owners don't bump their heads.

Not all dogs are suitable for service work, and the selection criteria is strict in order to ensure the safety of their owners. Service dogs are intelligent, alert and always willing to serve. A trained service dog can be a trustworthy ally and a valuable aide.

If you or a loved one has been denied Social Security Disability (SSDI) 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, <u>Social Security Disability attorney in Van Nuys</u>, can help you navigate the <u>SSDI application process</u> for the best possible outcome for you

Recipe of the Month:

Mustard Roasted Salmon



Ingredients

- 1 1/4 pound wild salmon, skin removed, cut into 4 pieces
- 2 tablespoons whole grain mustard
- 2 tablespoons 100% pure maple syrup
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- Juice of ½ a lemon

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400–degrees F. Place salmon pieces on a sheet pan lined with parchment paper. Season with salt and pepper; roast for 10 minutes. In a small bowl, combine mustard, maple syrup, garlic and lemon juice. After the 10 minutes of cooking, brush salmon with mixture and return to the oven for 5 minutes or until salmon is just cooked through.

Recipe courtesy of FoodNetwork.com

What's Happening in Southern California

Oct. 1 – 19, 2014

Jersey Boys

Pantages Theatre Hollywood

Oct. 1 - 25, 2014

Big Bear Lake Oktoberfest

Convention Center, Big Bear Lake

Oct. 1 - 31, 2014

The Trip to Bountiful

Ahmanson Theatre, Los Angeles

Oct. 2-4, 9-12,16-19,23-26 &29, 2014

Queen Mary Dark Harbor Halloween Event

Long Beach

Oct. 2 - 5, 2014

Orange County Auto Show

Anaheim Convention Center, Orange County

Oct. 3 - 5, 2014

The MCAS Miramar Air Show

The Marine Corp Air Station, San Diego

Oct. 3 - 5, 2014

The California Avocado Festival

Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County

Oct. 4, 2014

Vegan Oktoberfest

2600 Barnard Way, Santa Monica

Oct. 4 - 12, 2014

Southern California Fair

Lake Perris Fairgrounds

Oct. 6 - 7, 2014

Lorde concert

Greek Theatre, Los Angeles

Oct. 11, 2014

Bike MS Coastal Challenge

Civic Auditorium, Santa Monica

Oct. 11, 2014

20th Annual Little Italy Festa

Little Italy, San Diego

Oct. 11, 2014

Unwined with LA's Best

Hangar 8, 3000 31st Street, Los

Angeles

Oct. 18, 2014

Wellbeing Festival

Civic Auditorium, Santa Monica

Oct. 21 – 31, 2014

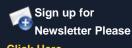
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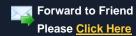
Pantages Theatre Hollywood,

Los Angeles











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Thanks for reading!