

Solutions, Strategies, Answers

Newsletter of the Social Security Administration Offices in
Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton and Philadelphia counties



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Welcome to the November 2016 edition of *Solutions, Strategies, Answers*, a newsletter produced by the 18 Social Security Administration Offices in southeastern Pennsylvania.



Securing today
and tomorrow



Honoring Veterans

Veterans Day, November 11, honors the brave men and women who risk their lives to protect our country and the freedoms we cherish. Social Security also has a proud history of hiring veterans. In 2015, veterans represented almost 40% of our total hiring. Disabled veterans represented more than 18% of our total hiring.

Over nine million veterans receive Social Security benefits. Military service members can receive expedited processing of disability claims from Social Security. Benefits available through Social Security are different from benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs, and require a separate application.

The expedited process is used for military service members who become disabled while on active military service on or after October 1, 2001.

In addition, veterans who have a VA compensation rating of *100% permanent and total (P&T)* may receive expedited processing of applications for Social Security disability benefits.

Go to <https://www.ssa.gov/people/veterans/>
<https://www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/military.html>
<https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10017.pdf>



Internet Social Security Number Replacement Card

Our Internet Social Security Number Replacement Card process allows *certain* individuals to apply for a replacement card through an online application located behind SSA's secure **my Social Security** portal. To date, more than 21,000 cards were processed in Pennsylvania and over 121,000 cards nationally.

Apply for a replacement Social Security card online if you are a U.S. citizen age 18 or older with a U.S. mailing address (this includes APO, FPO, and DPO addresses); **and** are not requesting a name change or any other change to your card; **and** have a valid driver's license or a state-issued identification card from one of the following localities:

- Arizona (driver's license only);
- District of Columbia (driver's license only);
- Idaho (driver's license only);
- Iowa;
- Kentucky;
- Maryland;
- Michigan;
- Mississippi;
- Nebraska;
- New Mexico;
- North Dakota (driver's license only);
- Pennsylvania;
- South Dakota;
- Washington; or
- Wisconsin (driver's license only).

If you do not qualify to apply online, please visit our page, [New or Replacement Social Security Number and Card](#), to find out how to apply for a card.



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American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month – November 2016

The indigenous people of North America, commonly known as Native Americans or American Indians and Alaska Natives, originally inhabited this land that we now call the United States.

Any of the many self-governing Native American communities, including all land within the limits of an Indian reservation, under government jurisdiction, are considered Indian Country. Currently, there are more than 300 federally recognized American Indian reservations, over 500 federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native tribes and over 100 state recognized tribes. Tribal sizes vary, and each has its own distinct style, unique tradition, language and history. The population estimate of Native Americans, including those of mixed race, is 5.4 million, or about two percent of the nation’s total population.

The American Indians and Alaska Natives special Internet site is the Social Security Administration’s effort to improve communication and provide information about all of Social Security’s programs to American Indian/Alaska Native peoples.

Go to: <https://www.ssa.gov/people/aian/>

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Contact us at
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Improving Service to Citizens Returning to the Community after Incarceration

Social Security, as a member of the Federal Interagency Reentry Council, has partnered with other federal agencies to provide a portal to information about available services for individuals just released from prison.

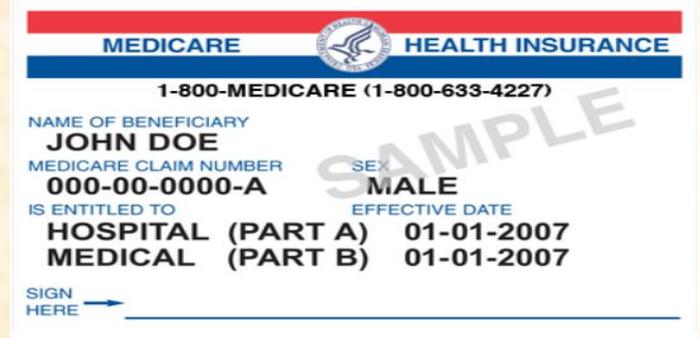
Our reentry web page, <https://www.ssa.gov/reentry/>, includes SSA-related information about accessing Social Security benefits, resources, and links to other federal agencies. Family members and advocates can readily access information for their relatives or clients about filing for or reinstating benefits, obtaining replacement Social Security cards, veterans’ services and healthcare.

Individuals released from incarceration may be eligible for:

- 1) **Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability benefits** if you have worked or paid into Social Security enough years or
- 2) **Supplemental Security Income benefits** if you are 65 or older, or are blind, or have a disability and have little or no income and resources.

For additional information via our pamphlets, please see the links below:

- [What Prisoners Need To Know](#)
- [Entering The Community After Incarceration—How We Can Help](#)



2017 Medicare Parts A & B Premiums and Deductibles Announced

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced the 2017 premiums for the Medicare inpatient hospital (Part A) and physician and outpatient hospital services (Part B) programs.

<https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2016-Press-releases-items/2016-11-10-2.html>