

SSI And Age 18 Reviews

Sometime after age 18, young adults who were receiving benefits will get a questionnaire from Social Security to provide medical and financial information. This information will be used to determine continued financial eligibility for SSI and medical eligibility for Medicaid.

THE PROCESS

1. **Receive a questionnaire about the child's medical condition and finances. The questionnaire should indicate the name and phone number of the person who is handling this claim. Write that information down and keep it in a safe place.**
2. **Complete the questionnaire and return it on time.**
3. **You may get a notice that the hospital has not submitted the evidence timely, if you do contact your case worker or call the medical records department at Comer and explain that SSA sent a request and SSA has not received the records. From Comer, get the date they anticipate sending the records and give that to the name of the person processing your claim.**
4. **Financial responsibility changes at age 18**
 - Parents' income and assets do not count against the child
 - The 18 year old has to be responsible for paying for their room and board to receive the whole SSI grant.
 - To prove that they are responsible; have a lease agreement with monthly
5. **How will I know if they do not accept our financial arrangement?**
 - In 2016, your check will go from \$733 to \$486.67 and you will receive a notice of overpayment that goes back to age 18.
 - What to do if that happens – go immediately to your local office and provide the evidence that the child's money has been used to pay their share of housing costs since they turned 18. You will need to provide the evidence of how the charge was determined. This may only correct the amount going forward.
6. **What happens if there is an overpayment as a result of SSA incorrectly determining that no rent is charged? See Below, ACTION is required or your check will be even further reduced.**

checks from the child's account to the landlord or parent. See how much to charge below.

Frequently Asked Questions

HOW MUCH RENT SHOULD BE CHARGED?

Two options:

1. **SSA Policy:** The amount of the rent should be consistent with what is paid for room and board. Remember from age 18 on, the amount you determine to charge for rent should be paid monthly preferably with a check from the child's account. Here are some common items used to calculate room and board:

- **Food, if getting food stamps just indicate that to SSA but do not include a dollar amount for purposes of calculating rent;**
- **Utilities;**
- **Rent;**
- **Taxes;**
- **Water;**
- **Household Insurance;**
- **Mortgage payments;**
- **Interest on the mortgage.**

See POMS SI 00835.465(D)

2. **7th Circuit rule:** There is an exception for Illinois residents if the required rent is equal or greater than 1/3rd of the current benefit amount (\$733/3 or \$244 for 2016) or the current market value of the rental then there is no rental subsidy and claimant gets the full check. See POMS SI 00835.380(C)(4).

WHAT TO DO WHEN A NOTICE THAT BENEFITS ARE ENDING IS RECEIVED?

- Go to your local SSA office **IMMEDIATELY** but not later than **10 DAYS FROM THE DATE ON THE NOTICE!!!**
- Appeal the decision
- Request **AID PENDING APPEAL** also called **CONTINUING BENEFIT PAYMENTS**, if you fail to make the request you cannot go back and fix it so make sure that you sign a statement that requests continuing benefits, IF YOU BELIEVE YOUR CHILD IS STILL ELIGIBLE.

WHAT DO I DO IF THERE IS NOTICE OF AN OVERPAYMENT?

- Try to determine the basis for the overpayment.
- If you do not agree with the explanation, file a Request for Reconsideration.
- If you do agree with the explanation but you believe that it was NOT your fault and you cannot afford to pay it back, file a Request for Waiver of Overpayment Recovery or Change in Repayment Rate (SSA Form 632)
- If you are denied or if you receive notice that your checks are going to stop you **MUST** go the local office and enter into a repayment agreement or you may lose your entire check. The most they can reduce the SSI check is by 10% of the check which for 2013 is \$73.00.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact your caseworker and they will refer you to someone who can help you.