

## Is There a Limit to How Much Back Pay a Social Security Attorney Can Collect?

Q: How do you know if you are eligible to apply for [social security disability](#) benefits?

A: If you have a condition that affects your mental or physical health to such a degree that you will not be able to be employed for 12 months or more, you can submit an application for disability through Social Security. A person can also submit an application, if he can still be employed in some fashion but will have an income below what the Social Security Administration calls "substantial gainful activity" (currently just below \$1000 pre tax monthly). You will not be eligible if your income will be above the SSA limit or your condition will not keep you from working for at least a year. If you have any questions about eligibility for your particular situation, you may wish to consult a social security attorney.

Q: What do you do if your physician is not responsive when you decide to submit an application for disability benefits?

A: One of the biggest things that can affect the likelihood that you will be awarded disability benefits is the statement your doctor will provide on your behalf. You need your doctor to be very supportive of your decision to apply for disability. Your physician knows your symptoms, treatments and outlook better than any other agent. The claims examiner will also need complete and recent medical information to fairly review your claim. Having a cooperative physician will assure that you will not hit any snags when trying to obtain copies of your records. If your doctor is not on your side, it would be wise to find another who is. If you are having difficulty finding a new physician or cannot pay for additional care, you may wish to speak with a social security attorney.

Q: When do you pay a social security attorney who is representing your disability case?

A: You do not pay anything to your social security attorney until you win your case. Most claims that are awarded benefits do not receive approval until they have been through a hearing. By that time, retroactive benefits are most always due. Your social security attorney will be paid directly from Social Security when you receive your retroactive benefits. Your attorney is entitled to 25 percent of your total retroactive benefits payment. Related Info [Veterans lawyers](#) . [Social security help](#) .

### About the Author

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