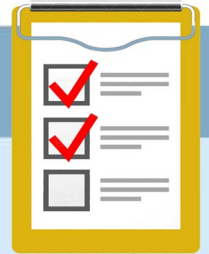


# Social Security Disability

**Start here:** When you're injured or are suffering from a life-altering illness it's hard to know what to do, where to turn, and more importantly, who to turn to. This guide will: 1. Give you the basics on disability benefits eligibility, 2. Help you prepare for the bumps in the road, 3. Outline the best plan of action to help you win your benefits.

## 1 Who is eligible for benefits?



**Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)** is available for those who are deemed “disabled” and can no longer work. To be eligible, an individual must meet certain work/earnings requirements (“credits”).

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** like SSDI it is available for those who are deemed “disabled” and can no longer work but eligibility is determined based on income level. SSI is available for low income individuals.

## 2 What should I expect of the process?



The first step of applying for Social Security Disability is the initial application. Most individuals will be denied at this stage. In fact, Tennessee boasts one of the highest rejection ratings in the nation, denying 72 percent of all claims in 2017 while the national average for denials was 66 percent.

If the claim is denied, the next step is to file a Request for Reconsideration. This is where it gets even worse: Only 13.8 percent of all Reconsideration cases across the nation result in disability claim approval.

If denied a second time, the next step is to file a Request for a Hearing with an Administrative Law Judge. This step culminates with a hearing in front of a Judge who will decide a claimant's application/case.

## 3 What is the best course of action?



The Social Security Disability process is technical and complex. An experienced attorney will know what to look for, and will know how to best use the medical evidence to prove your claim and win your benefits.

Generally speaking, most Social Security Disability Attorneys work on contingency. That means that a set fee will be paid out of the backpay benefits you eventually receive, but that you'll never be required to pay anything up front or during your claims process. If the attorney does not win your case, he or she does not receive the fee. The right lawyer will shoulder the burdens of the process and fight for the benefits you deserve, so you focus on the healing.

**More questions? Call for a free consultation.**

Call **615-425-2500** or [Click Here for Contact Form](#)