

Social Security Decisions

What happens if the Social Security Administration decides that I am no longer eligible for disability benefits or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments, or decides to reduce the amount of my disability or SSI payments?

The Social Security Administration will send you a letter to tell you about changes to your benefits. This letter will explain why the changes are happening. It will also tell you when the change will take effect. This letter may be called a "Notice of Planned Action or a "Notice of Change in Payment."

What should I do if I receive a Notice that stops or reduces my monthly benefits?

You must act quickly!

The Notice from the Social Security Administration will tell you what you can do if you disagree with the decision. Read the entire Notice. You have to act fast or risk losing your right to an appeal.

If you have questions about how to file an appeal, you should get help immediately. Call your local Social Security office or Legal Services for the Elderly's Helpline at 1-800-750-5353.

What happens if I do nothing and ignore the Notice?

The Social Security Administration will take the action described in the Notice and you will stop receiving all or some of your monthly benefits.

If you wait too long to respond to the Notice, you could lose your right to appeal the decision.

Do not ignore the Notice!

Legal Disclaimer: This publication provides only general legal information. It does not provide legal advice. This information is not a substitute for getting help from an attorney. If you are seeking specific legal advice or assistance you should contact an attorney by calling LSE's Helpline at **1-800-750-5353**, the Maine State Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services at **1-800-860-1460**, or another legal resource.