

Children's Supplemental Security Income Project

WHAT IS THE CHILDREN'S SSI PROJECT?

The Children's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Project is a Project in which volunteer attorneys assist low-income children to secure disability benefits.

HOW DOES SOCIAL SECURITY DECIDE IF A CHILD IS DISABLED?

The child must have a physical or mental condition(s) that very seriously limits his or her activities; and the condition(s) must have lasted, or be expected to last, at least one year or result in death.

IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR SSI?

Under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, a child from birth to age 18 may receive monthly payments based on disability if:

- He or she has an impairment or a combination of impairments that meets the definition of disability for children; and
- The parent(s) and the child are within the allowed resource and asset limits.



CAN I APPEAL A NEGATIVE DECISION MADE BY SOCIAL SECURITY?

If your child is denied SSI, you may appeal the decision. There are four levels of appeal:

- Reconsideration
- Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Hearing
- Hearing before Appeals Council
- Federal Court Review

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF DISABILITY FOR SSI PURPOSES?

- Severe asthma
- Mental retardation
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Neurological seizures