

Social Security Help from a Social Security Lawyer

Q: The SSA says they have paid me more money than they should have. What do I do?

A: Any social security lawyer will tell you that you have a few different options when you are told that you have been overpaid. Your first option is to ask the SSA for what is called a "reconsideration." You will do this when you believe that Social Security has made a mistake in considering you an overpayment. In this case, Social Security will look over your file again. If you meet with them, you may want to take a social security lawyer along, just in case.

If you agree with Social Security that your overpayment status is legitimate, you can ask for a waiver. When you request a payment waiver, you acknowledge that you were given too much money, but would like to be exempt from paying it back. This is the course of action a social security lawyer might suggest if the overpayment was due to Social Security's mistake, not yours.

Lastly, if you think that the overpayment was your mistake, you will generally be required to repay the overpayment. Your social security lawyer or advocate will suggest you talk to Social Security about a payment schedule. This will allow you to repay the money as you are able. Arent sure whether you should request a reconsideration, waiver, or payment schedule? A social security lawyer can help you make the right choice.

Q: As somebody who is legally blind, am I eligible for social security?

A: The SSA defines "legally blind" as vision that cant be corrected to better than 20/200 in at least one eye. And like other disabilities, those who are legally blind may be eligible for social security disability. Though its always a good idea to speak to a social security lawyer or advocate about your specific case, the same overall rules will generally apply to you as to a person with another disability.

In most ways, blindness is treated by the SSA like any disability. But some special benefits are set aside for the legally blind, as this condition is particularly disabling. If you are legally blind, you may want to speak to a social security lawyer about any extra benefits you may be eligible for.

Q: Ive heard I cant file for Social Security for 12 months after my disability. Is this really true?

A: No, you do not have to wait to apply. The SSA defines a SSD eligible disability as one that keeps you from earning a substantial gainful income. That disability must also be expected to be fatal or to last at least 12 months. Those that dont work with a social security lawyer often take this to mean they have to wait until theyve been disabled 12 months to apply. But a social security lawyer will tell you to apply right away.

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