

GOVERNMENT BENEFITS

SOCIAL SECURITY

Most of us are entitled to some type of Social Security Benefits, but the nature of the benefit(s) and the qualifications thereof are subject to change. Thus, it is important to obtain timely information every few years on what benefits may be due.

It is also important to remember that SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS MUST BE APPLIED FOR: THEYARE NOT PAID AUTOMATICALLY. Also, benefits must be applied for within a specific time frame. To facilitate the filing of a claim for your Social Security Benefits, you will need most or all of the following documents:

- Death Certificate
- Birth Certificate of Deceased
- Social Security Card of Deceased
- Marriage Certificate (copy)
- Birth Certificate of Applicant
- Birth Certificate of Minor Children
- Disability Proof for Children over 18
- Receipted Funeral Bill

Currently, Social Security Benefits are available in cases of disability and at the time of retirement (age 62); when death occurs, benefits are available to a surviving spouse over the age 60 and to surviving children under the age 18.

You can contact your local Social Security Office for current information on specific benefits and claims procedures, or call the national toll-free number at 1-800-234-5772 or 1-800-772-1213. You may also write to your local office or to the national Social Security Office at: Social Security Administration, Baltimore, Maryland 21238.

VETERANS BENEFITS

The family of an honorably discharged veteran may be entitled to a number of benefits. Please be aware that VETERANS' BENEFITS MUST BE APPLIED FOR. THEY ARE NOT PAID AUTOMATICALLY. When filing a claim for Veterans' Benefits, most or all of the following documents will be needed:

- Veteran's Death Certificate
- Veteran's Discharge Papers
- Copy of Veteran's Marriage Certificate
- Birth Certificates of Veteran's Minor Children
- Receipt of Itemized Funeral Bill for Veteran

You can contact your local or regional office of the US. Department of Veterans Affairs for current information on benefits and claims procedures, or call the Department of Veterans Affairs at: 1-202-872-1151.

Or write: Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, N. W, Washington, D.C. 20420