

Do You Need a Social Security Attorney to Appeal?

Q: What is the process your SSDI benefits claim will go through when you file for benefits?

A: Your file will be initially reviewed after you apply for disability benefits. If you have not already had an interview via phone or in person with a social security representative, you will be contacted. The purpose of the interview is to assure that you have submitted all the requisite forms and that your file contains all the necessary details for the initial review. Your file will then be assigned to a disability examiner at your state Social Security DDS office. The disability examiner for your case will obtain your medical records, review your case and meet with a consultative physician to make a determination regarding your case. You will then be notified as to whether or not you will be awarded social security disability. Most claims are not approved when initially reviewed. If you wish to continue, you may appeal and have your case reconsidered. Your file will undergo another review with a case manager and doctor assigned to reconsideration. Many claimants seek the counsel of a social security attorney at this point in the process. This is due to the fact that the majority of claims are not approved during reconsideration. And the next step would be to appeal to have your claim heard before an administrative judge. This will be your final opportunity to present your claim and be awarded benefits. That is why most claimants have an advocate like a social security attorney at this point. It is not mandatory that you have a social security attorney, but having the knowledge and experience a legal advocate can provide will be invaluable to your case. Most cases that are awarded benefits after the hearing process are represented by an attorney.

Q: Will your social security attorney handle everything to apply for disability benefits?

A: A social security attorney typically handles all the paperwork after you have applied for benefits. You need to complete and submit the paperwork for your initial claim. You will normally also need to fill out forms regarding your work history and how your condition has affected your ability to work. Your attorney will assist you and make sure you complete those forms. Your social security attorney will also follow up with Social Security to make sure everything has been submitted correctly and on time.

Q: Can you submit an application for social security disability online?

A: Yes, you can apply online at the official Social Security web site. The application and report on your employment history and injury can both be submitted via the web. A basic guide is also available on the site, to help you complete everything. Visit <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline> to find out more.

About the Author

For more info on [social security disability](#), link to HillandPonton.com.

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