



BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN

NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES

Because Justice is for All



**SOCIAL SECURITY
DISABILITY BENEFITS
FOR CHILDREN**

What is the definition of disability in children?

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

Social Security makes this determination based on medical records and school reports. Make sure your child is in treatment for the conditions you consider disabling and keep in touch with school personnel to get reports on your child's functioning in school.



How is disability established?

In order to establish disability, it must be established that the child has *marked limitation in at least **2** of 6 of the following domains of functioning or *extreme limitations in at least **1** of the 6 domains:

- Acquiring and Using Information
- Attending and Completing Tasks
- Interacting and Relating Well With Others
- Moving About and Manipulating Objects
- Caring for Self
- Health and Physical Well-Being

Does my child qualify?

In order to qualify for SSI Benefits, children must also meet certain income/resource guidelines.

- Social Security counts parental income in determining a child's financial eligibility for benefits. This is called "deeming".
- Social Security uses a complicated formula to determine how much of the parental income and resources is deemed to the child.
- Once that is calculated, Social Security determines whether the child has resources over the \$2,000 limit.
- If this is the case, the child will not be eligible for SSI benefits no matter how severe the child's disability.



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How NLS Can Help

If your child has been denied benefits after your initial application or Social Security determines that your child is no longer eligible for benefits, NLS may be able to assist you on the appeal process.

Before contacting NLS, please have your denial or termination notice ready to provide information to intake staff.



NEIGHBORHOOD
LEGAL SERVICES





NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES

How to Get Help

Visit our website and apply online at

www.nlsa.us

and choose “Get Legal Help”

or call **1-866-761-6572**

NLS provides interpreters and translation services.
All services are confidential.

Neighborhood Legal Services does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, sexual orientation, handicap/disability, national origin, ancestry, creed, and religion or any other characteristics protected by law with regard to employment and/or delivery of legal services.

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