



Huntington's Disease Society of America

Social Security Disability:

What to do After Submitting Your Application and How to Follow-Up with Social Security

If you are not sure how often to follow-up with Social Security, what to ask, or what to expect after your application has been submitted, use this resource to help make the process a little easier.

Submitting your Social Security (SSA) disability application is only one part of the disability application process, your job is not done. Regular follow-ups with SSA and advocating for yourself are also very important parts of the process. Many people incorrectly assume that it is SSA's job to find you disabled. In fact, it is your job to show SSA that you are disabled.

It is your responsibility to make sure that SSA has all the evidence and information they need to make a decision in your case. SSA is legally required to REQUEST your medical records, but that does not mean that SSA will OBTAIN your medical records. Requests can get lost, sent to the wrong place, or mishandled. Following up with SSA helps ensure that all important medical records and other documents are received in your case. It also lets SSA know that you are an active participant in the disability process and will do what you can to make sure your claim is processed as quickly as possible. Thoroughly cooperating with SSA and providing evidence can help speed up the processing of a disability claim.

Things SSA will not disclose unless you ask:

- If they have flagged your claim for Compassionate Allowance
- If they are familiar with Huntington's disease
- If they have received all of your medical evidence
- If they have received additional evidence, like support letters
- What evidence they are still waiting to receive
- The status of your claim

When to follow up with Social Security:

Local Field Office - <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>

- **3-5 days** after submitting application
 - Confirm the application has been received
 - Ask who to send evidence to
 - Ask if claim has been flagged for Compassionate Allowance
- **7 days** after evidence or 1696 has been submitted
 - Confirm documentation has been received and added to case
 - Follow up weekly if not yet received
- **1 month** after application submitted
 - Call to check if case is still at FO or if it has been transferred to DDS
 - Is FO waiting on any information?
 - Continue to follow up with FO monthly until case has been sent to DDS

Disability Determination Services (DDS)

- **Call DDS as soon as case is transferred**
 - Confirm what medical records have been requested
 - Confirm what medical records have been received
 - Confirm what additional evidence has been received:
 - * support letters
 - * medical letter from MD
 - * medical source statement
 - Ask for case status
 - Ask if DDS needs anything else
- **Monthly** – Follow-up with DDS until a decision is made
 - Check status of medical records and other evidence
 - Verify DDS has all the completed forms they need, including but not limited to:
 - Adult Function Report
 - Third Party Adult Function Report
 - Work History Report
 - Other Contacts

Find additional disability resources at www.hdsa.org/disability