

Continuing Disability Reviews

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

What is a continuing disability review?

A continuing disability review is an evaluation that the Social Security Administration (SSA) does to determine whether an individual receiving benefits based on disability is still disabled. SSA reviews medical records before making a decision.

How often will SSA conduct a continuing disability review?

It depends. When SSA approves a disability claim, it decides how likely it is that your medical conditions will improve. If SSA decides that improvement is...

- **...expected**, it may review your case every six to 18 months.
- **...possible**, it may review your case every three years.
- **...not expected**, it may review your case every five to seven years.

SSA may also review your case if you start working, if there is some evidence that your condition has improved, or if you have stopped following prescribed treatment without a good reason.

How can I avoid losing my benefits?

- Keep up with visits to your doctor(s).
- Follow all prescribed treatments or, if you disagree with your treatment plan, talk with your doctor about alternatives.
- Respond promptly to any letters that SSA sends.
- Let SSA know about any major changes in your medical condition.

If SSA tells you it is conducting a continuing disability review, complete any forms SSA sends, so that the decision is based on **all** the evidence. If SSA decides that you are no longer disabled, you can appeal that decision.

How can Project HEAL help?

Project HEAL (Health, Education, Advocacy, and Law), a community-based program of the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities at Kennedy Krieger Institute, can help answer specific questions about continuing disability reviews.

For more information on Project HEAL and its services, visit: KennedyKrieger.org/ProjectHEAL

To connect with Project HEAL, call **443-923-4414** or complete an [online intake form](#).

*** SSA's policies may change. Contact SSA (ssa.gov) or Project HEAL for updates. ***

