

## Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Social Security Facts

Social Security provides benefits to 47 million people. They include over 7 million people with disabilities, their spouses and children. When most people talk about Social Security changes, they only discuss retirement benefits. This is a very serious concern for people with disabilities and their families because changes in the program will have a huge impact on everyone who gets benefits - not just people who retire.

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities [CCD] believes that any changes in the Social Security program must follow these principles:

- Keep Social Security's current structure based on payroll taxes.
- Preserve Social Security as a social insurance program for everyone who is eligible.
- Guarantee monthly benefits adjusted for inflation.
- Preserve Social Security to meet the needs of people who are eligible now and in the future.
- Restore Social Security's long-term financial stability.

The disability community urges Congress to request a **beneficiary impact statement** on every major component of any serious proposal. In a program that affects millions of individuals of all ages, it is essential for policymakers to look beyond the budgetary changes to understand the actual impact on people's daily lives.

The CCD Social Security Task Force created a set of seven Fact Sheets in March 2005 to educate people about the potential devastating effect of major program changes. The Fact Sheets discuss the following topics:

- What Benefits Do People with Disabilities and Their Families Get from Social Security?
- How Does Social Security Help People with Disabilities & Their Families?
- How Does Social Security Protect Young Workers and Their Families?
- How is Social Security Funded?
- How Will Individual Private Accounts Affect Social Security?
- How Are the Social Security & SSI Disability Programs Different?
- Checklist: Effect of Proposed Changes on People with Disabilities & Their Families

CCD encourages its member organizations and others to share the Fact Sheets with their own members, elected officials and the press. Although the Fact Sheets were created as a set, people may use them separately to discuss an area of special concern. Electronic copies of the Fact Sheets are available to download from the CCD web site, [www.c-c-d.org](http://www.c-c-d.org).




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**Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities**, 1660 L Street NW, Suite 701, Washington, DC 20036. See [www.c-c-d.org](http://www.c-c-d.org). The CCD, a coalition of over 100 national consumer, provider & advocacy organizations, advocates for national public policy to ensure the self determination, independence, empowerment, integration & inclusion of the 54 million children and adults with disabilities living in the United States.  
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