



OFFICE LOCATION

Ankin Law Office
162 W Grand Ave
Chicago, IL 60654

Tel: 312-346-8780 or 800-442-6546

Fax: 312-346-8781

PRACTICE AREAS

Workers Compensation

Personal Injury

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Wrongful Death

Illinois Social Security Disability Attorneys

6/25/2010

Social Security disability benefits are available if you are unable to “work for pay” for at least 12 consecutive months due to illness or injury. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) is a federal program that is funded by payroll taxes. It was designed as a safety net for disabled workers to provide regular income to live on. Obtaining Social Security benefits can be challenging, however, and it is wise to hire an experienced attorney to help you with your claim.

Social Security Disability Eligibility

Social Security disability and [workers' compensation](#) are both benefit programs for disabled workers, but they are very different from each other. In order to qualify for Social Security disability benefits, applicants must meet certain eligibility requirements including:

*Substantial work history - The applicant must have worked for five of the last 10 years and paid into the Social Security system.

*Documented long-term impairment - The applicant must be able to prove an on-going physical impairment or [mental illness](#) lasting at least 12 consecutive months. Medical records are typically required.

*[Long-term disability](#) - The applicant's impairment must be expected to last at least one year or end in death.

*Inability to work - The applicant's impairment must be so severe that gainful employment in a previous job or any other type of job is impossible.

If you receive SSDI benefits and have dependent children, your children may also be eligible for benefits.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Elderly, blind and disabled workers may also qualify for additional assistance in the form of [Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\)](#). These benefits are available only to those who are in financial need, however. Your need is determined by your income and assets. This differs from SSDI, which is need independent. Some disabled workers can qualify for both SSDI and SSI. If you are disabled and plan to [file for Social Security benefits](#) or your current claim has been denied,



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[contact us](#) at [Ankin Law Office](#). We operate throughout Illinois including Cook, DuPage, Lake, Will, McHenry, LaSalle, Kankakee, McLean and Peoria counties. Our attorneys can help you navigate this often difficult system to present your case in the best possible light.

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