

# Social Security Disability:

## *Application, Benefits & Employment*



- If I become disabled, then what?
- How do I apply?
- Who decides if I am disabled?
- What documentation is needed?
- How is disability determined?
- What benefits can my family get?
- Can I work while on disability?
- How can I get back to work?
- What help is there for medical costs?

An estimated 9.7% of Pierce County residents have some type of disability including mobility, cognition, hearing, vision, communication, mental health, self-care and challenges to independent living. This is a diverse group with a wide range of needs. Social Security often serves as a lifeline source of income. Several “Compassionate Allowances” help expedite the processing of disability claims. Family members of disabled workers may also receive money from Social Security. Get the details about this program and how to access important benefits from Social Security Disability. This presentation will be given live online and by telephone by Kirk Larson, Public Affairs Specialist, Social Security Administration.

**April 7, 2021**

**4:00 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Free**

**Advance RSVP Required**

**Online:**

<https://bit.ly/39b6CFg>

**Telephone:**

253-215-8782

888-788-0099 or 877-853-5247 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 957 3135 8238

Sponsored by Pierce County Aging & Disability Resources  
and the Social Security Administration

For additional information call (253) 798-4600 or (800) 562-0332



### Workshop lays out basics of Social Security Disability

The CDC estimates that [1 in 4 Americans have a disability](#), but still, many people are unaware of this vital program. The importance of these benefits cannot be understated, as they often protect against poverty, homelessness, and bankruptcy.

Pierce County Aging and Disability Resources will host a free online presentation about Social Security Disability next month. This workshop will explain qualifications, the application process, denials and appeals. Advanced registration is required, and participants can sign up using the link below:

- **Wednesday, April 7 at 4 p.m.**  
Register online: <https://bit.ly/39b6CFg>  
Join by phone: 253-215-8782 or 888-788-0099  
Webinar ID: 957 3135 8238

President Eisenhower signed an amendment to the Social Security Act establishing the Social Security Disability Insurance Program in 1956, helping people with disabilities afford housing, food, transportation, and other essentials. These benefits often protect against poverty, homelessness, and bankruptcy. Social Security Disability Insurance pays benefits if a worker is “insured,” meaning that they worked long enough and paid Social Security taxes.

Understandably, most workers do not think about Social Security Disability until they have an urgent need, even though, by working they’re earning coverage that protects them against financial ruin.

“A worker starting out faces about a 1 in 4 chance of becoming disabled before reaching retirement age,” said Aaron Van Valkenburg, Pierce County Aging and Disability Resources manager. “While people don’t like to think about becoming disabled and unable to support themselves, disability can happen to anyone — and becomes likelier as a person ages.”

Presenting information about Social Security Disability will be Kirk Larson, Public Affairs Specialist with the Social Security Administration. For more information call the [Aging and Disability Resource Center \(ADRC\)](#) at 253-798-4600.

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