

My Social Security Account

On 1/7/2013, we expanded the online services available with a *my Social Security* account:

- We invite you to listen in on **Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. EST**, to a Social Security conference call regarding the new *my Social Security* service. To participate, please dial [1-800-967-7149](tel:1-800-967-7149) and enter the passcode **693288#**. (Don't forget to press the # sign). No need to RSVP, just dial in if you can join us.
- Using *my Social Security*, more than 60 million people who receive Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) will now be able to immediately request **and** receive benefit verification letters online! Beneficiaries will also have access to their payment history and earnings record.
- In addition to the benefit verification letter, Social Security beneficiaries can now start or change their direct deposit, and change their address using their *my Social Security* account.
- Individuals not receiving benefits can create a *my Social Security* account and quickly receive their personalized online Social Security *Statement*.

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount (must be age 18 or older and have a valid email address) to sign up for an account and see more information.

Local Office Hours

Effective January 2nd, 2013, all local Social Security offices will have new public hours:

- Doors are open to the public on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to Noon. This includes local phone numbers.
- Our national toll-free number [1-800-772-1213](tel:1-800-772-1213) remains open on weekdays, 7a.m. to 7p.m.
- Info is available 24/7 online at www.socialsecurity.gov, with many of our online services available in Spanish at www.segurosocial.gov.

2013 Cost of Living Adjustments

Social Security beneficiaries received a 1.7% COLA for 2013.

- To see the 2013 figures for FICA taxable earnings, annual work limits, and other COLA adjusted info, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice/factsheets/colafacts2013.htm.
- For Medicare premiums updates, see the CMS Medicare 2013 summary at www.medicare.gov/cost.

More Online Resources

- If you haven't visited Social Security's website recently, please give it a try. Our site is designed to help visitors quickly and easily find the information and services they need. Among the highlights:
 - The FAQ database is marked with a large question mark on the right side of the homepage.
 - You can apply online for disability, retirement, spouse benefits, and Medicare-only applications. See www.ssa.gov/onlineservices for a list of what you can transact online with Social Security.
 - The Business Services link (for those in the tax world) is front-and-center, next to the Medicare tab.
 - Our retirement planning section now includes a life expectancy calculator at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/lifeexpectancy.htm and a link to spouse benefits information at www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/yourspouse.htm.