

ACRONYM	AGENCY	ТҮРЕ
BRS	Bureau of Rehabilitation Services	STATE of Connecticut
CLRP	Connecticut Legal Rights Project	STATE of Connecticut
CSSD	Court Support Services Division	STATE of Connecticut
DCF	Department of Children and Families	STATE of Connecticut
DDS	Department of Developmental Services	STATE of Connecticut
DMHAS	Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services	STATE of Connecticut
DMHAS YAS	Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Young Adult Services	STATE of Connecticut
DOC	Department of Corrections	STATE of Connecticut
DOH	Department of Housing	STATE of Connecticut
DPH	Department of Public Health	STATE of Connecticut
DSS	Department of Social Services	STATE of Connecticut
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development	FEDERAL
SSA	Social Security Administration	FEDERAL

ACRONYM	AGENCY	TYPE
ACT	Aids Connecticut	PRIVATE Non-profit
CCEH	Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness	PRIVATE Non-profit
CSH	Corporation for Supportive Housing	PRIVATE Non-profit
HI	Housing Innovations	Consultant
LMHA	Local Mental Health Authority	LOCAL/STATE
PSC	Partnership for Strong Communities	PRIVATE Non-profit

ACRONYM	PROGRAM	TYPE
ВНН	Behavioral Health Home	LOCAL/STATE
BOS	Balance of State	STATE of Connecticut
CAN	Coordinated Access Network	STATE of Connecticut
ССТ	Community Care Team	LOCAL/STATE
CoC	Continuum of Care (HUD required)	STATE/FEDERAL
PSH	[Permanent] Supportive Housing	STATE/FEDERAL
RAP	Rental Assistance Program	STATE of Connecticut
RRH	Rapid Rehousing	STATE of Connecticut
SAGA	State Administered General Assistance	STATE of Connecticut
SSI	Supplemental Security Income	FEDERAL
SSDI	Social Security Disability Insurance	FEDERAL
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	FEDERAL
TCM	Targeted Case Management	STATE of Connecticut

ACRONYM	SYSTEM	TYPE
EQMI	EQMI - Evaluation, Quality Management and Improvement [Division]	STATE of Connecticut
DDaP	DMHAS Data Performance	STATE of Connecticut
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System	STATE/NATIONAL

ACRONYM	PHILOSOPHY
EB or EBP	Evidence-based or Evidence-based practice
HF	Housing First
HR	Harm Reduction
MI	Motivational Interviewing

ACRONYM OR ABBREVIATED NAME	FACILITY
Capitol Region	Capitol Region Mental Health Center
СМНС	Connecticut Mental Health Center
CVH	Connecticut Valley Hospital
ES	Emergency Shelter
RVS	River Valley Services
SWCMHS	Southwestern CT Mental Health System
Western	Western CT Mental Health Network

ACRONYM	FORM/TOOL
BNL	By Name List (used by CAN)
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (used by CAN)

What Is the Difference Between Social Security Disability (SSDI) and SSI?

Both SSI and SSDI disability programs offer cash benefits for disabled individuals, but the financial eligibility requirements are very different.

By Beth Laurence, J.D.

The main difference between Social Security Disability (SSD, or SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is the fact that SSD is available to workers who have accumulated a sufficient number of work credits, while SSI disability benefits are available to low-income individuals who have either never worked or who haven't earned enough work credits to qualify for SSD.

While many people don't distinguish between SSI (Supplemental Security Income) and SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance), they are two completely different governmental programs. While both programs are overseen and managed by the Social Security Administration, and medical eligibility for disability is determined in the same manner for both programs, there are distinct differences between the two.

What Is SSI?

Supplemental Security Income is a program that is strictly need-based, according to income and assets, and is funded by general fund taxes (not from the Social Security trust fund). SSI is called a "means-tested program," meaning it has nothing to do with work history, but strictly with financial need. To meet the SSI income requirements, you must have less than \$2,000 in assets (or \$3,000 for a couple) and a very limited income.

Disabled people who are eligible under the income requirements for SSI are also able to receive Medicaid in the state they reside in. Most people who qualify for SSI will also qualify for food stamps, and the amount an eligible person will receive is dependent on where they live and the amount of regular, monthly income they have. SSI benefits will begin on the first of the month when you first submit your application.

What Is SSDI?

Social Security Disability Insurance is funded through payroll taxes. SSDI recipients are considered "insured" because they have worked for a certain number of years and have made contributions to the Social Security trust fund in the form of FICA Social Security taxes. SSDI candidates must be younger than 65 and have earned a certain number of "work credits." (To learn more, see our article on SSDI and work credits.) After receiving SSDI for two years, a disabled person will become eligible for Medicare.

Under SSDI, a disabled person's spouse and children dependents are eligible to receive partial dependent benefits, called auxiliary benefits. However, only adults over the age of 18 can receive the SSDI disability benefit.

There is a five-month waiting period for benefits, meaning that the SSA won't pay you benefits for the first five months after you become disabled. The amount of the monthly benefit after the waiting period is over depends on your earnings record, much like the Social Security retirement benefit.