

Supplemental Security Income

www.ssa.gov/ssi 1-800-772-1213

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues (*not* Social Security taxes):

- It is designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people who have little or no income; and
- It provides cash to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter

SSI for Children

<https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/text-child-ussi.htm>

If you are under age 18 we may consider you “disabled” if you have a medically determinable physical or mental impairment, (including an emotional or learning problem) that:

- results marked and severe functional limitations; and
- can be expected to result in death; or
- has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.

SSI for Adults

If you are age 18 or older we may consider you “disabled” if you have a medically determinable physical or mental impairment (including an emotional or learning problem) which:

- results in the inability to do any [substantial gainful activity](#) (earnings averaging less than \$1,180 a month for the year 2018); and
- can be expected to result in death; or
- has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months

Ticket to Work

<https://choosework.ssa.gov/>

The Ticket to Work (Ticket) program is a free and voluntary program that can help Social Security beneficiaries go to work, get a good job that may lead to a career, and become financially independent, all while they keep their Medicare or Medicaid. Individuals who receive Social Security benefits because of a disability and are age 18 through 64 probably already qualify for the program.

MiABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) account

www.miable.org

A tax-free Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) account lets people with disabilities save for their future without affecting their SSI, Medicaid, SNAP and other benefits. It also lets family and friends give them money. The first \$100,000 in an ABLE account will not impact SSI eligibility, allowing persons with SSI benefits to work.

Disability Benefits 101

<https://mi.db101.org/>

For more information about working with a disability in Michigan. This site has a calculator to determine how working and going to school may impact or help you with benefits.

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)

Steve Peterson (810) 667-0830

Provides specialized employment and education-related services and training to assist teens and adults with disabilities in becoming employed or retaining employment. In addition, MRS partners with and collaborates with the State Department of Education, local school systems, [Michigan Career and Technical Institute \(MCTI\)](#), community colleges, four-year colleges, and

universities to develop statewide school-to-work, postsecondary, and adult life programs to help students with disabilities succeed in secondary and postsecondary education and transition to employment.

[Lapeer Teamwork](#) – Employment Placement Services and developing work skills provided in collaboration with Michigan Rehab and Michigan Works. Job coaching, mobile workforce and retail training.

Lapeer County Community Mental Health (810) 667-0500

Day Treatment Program - Stepping Stone is a skill-building program for people with developmental disabilities that are unable to work. Skill building assistance consists of activities identified in the participant's individual plan of service that assist them in increasing their self-sufficiency and to engage in meaningful activities.

Housing

Section 8 vouchers A program that helps people with low [income](#) pay for housing

Available through the Lapeer Housing Commission (810)664-0591
Blue Water Center for Independent Living (BWCIL) (810) 664-9098

Contact BWCIL for additional housing options and assistance with housing resources and applications

Guardianship Age 18

A guardian is someone appointed to make legal decisions for another person (called the ward) that has a developmental disability. Guardianship is the legal proceeding in court. When a court gives powers to a guardian, they take those same rights away from the ward. Students are automatically their own guardian when they turn 18 years of age unless a guardian is appointed by probate court.

Most people with a disability are able to take care of their own lives without a guardian. There are alternatives to guardianship that can meet the needs of an individual without going to court. Everyone is different, and what works for one situation may not work for another. Some examples of alternatives to guardianship may include a limited bank account, trust fund, power of attorney, etc.

In order to complete the guardianship process, forms can be obtained from Lapeer County Probate Court, beginning with the "*Petition For Appointment of Guardian, Individual with Alleged Developmental Disability.*" A current psychological report is required along with the petition.

Summary Of Performance Completed during a students final year of school and contains information on the performance, abilities and aspirations and recommendations to help meet post-secondary goals.

ARC Michigan - Macomb Chapter (586) 469-1600 <https://arcservices.org/>

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