

Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Representative Payees (PABRP)



What should I tell my payee?

Be sure to tell your payee if you:

- get a job or stop working;
- move;
- get married;
- get money from another source;
- take a trip outside the United States;
- go to jail or prison;
- are admitted to a hospital;
- save any money;
- apply for help from a welfare department or other government agency; and
- are no longer disabled, if your benefits are based on a disability.



If you or your payee fail to report any of the above actions to SSA, you may be paid more money than you are due. You may have to pay back any money you were not due, and your payments may stop.

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On April 13, 2018 the President signed the Strengthening Protections for Social Security Beneficiaries Act of 2018. The law directs state Protection & Advocacy (P&A) system organizations to conduct all periodic on-site reviews along with additional discretionary reviews. In addition, the P&As will conduct educational visits and conduct reviews based on allegations they receive of payee misconduct.



Your representative payee is responsible for keeping records, and when requested, reporting how your Social Security Income (SSI) benefits are spent on your behalf.

To ensure satisfactory oversight of Social Security and SSI benefits, the P&A will conduct a home visit and interview of beneficiaries served by the representative payee selected for a review. If applicable, the P&A will also conduct an interview with legal guardians or third parties.

Why do I have a payee?

Payees are assigned to help you in managing your money and meeting your current needs.

What does a payee do for me?

Your payee receives your payments on your behalf and must use the money to pay for your current needs, which include:

- housing and utilities;
- food;
- medical and dental expenses;
- personal care items;
- clothing;
- rehabilitation expenses (if you're disabled).

After those expenses are paid, your payee can use the rest of the money to pay any past-due bills you may have, support your dependents or provide entertainment for you. If there is money left over, your payee should save it for you.

The payee must keep accurate records of your payments and how they are spent and regularly report that information to Social Security. Your payee also should share that information with you.

If you live in an institution, such as a nursing home or a hospital, the payee should pay the cost of your care and provide money for your personal needs.

What is the purpose of a Representative Payee Review?

Representative Payee Reviews are conducted to ensure that the representative payee:

- manages funds so that the beneficiary(ies) have no unmet needs;
- accounts for all funds received and spent;
- saves any unspent funds in the correct manner, and
- follows representative payee accounting and reporting responsibilities.

What is the process of a representative payee review?

- an interview with the representative payee;
- a review of the representative payee's financial records for the requested beneficiary;
- a home visit and interview for each beneficiary;
- an interview with legal guardians and third parties when needed.

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