

**Explanation of Form SSA-827,
"Authorization to Disclose Information to the Social Security Administration (SSA)"**

We need your written authorization to help get the information required to process your claim, and to determine your capability of managing benefits. Laws and regulations require that sources of personal information have a signed authorization before releasing it to us. Also, laws require specific authorization for the release of information about certain conditions and from educational sources.

You can provide this authorization by signing a form SSA-827. Federal law permits sources with information about you to release that information if you sign a single authorization to release all your information from all your possible sources. We will make copies of it for each source. A covered entity (that is, a source of medical information about you) may not condition treatment, payment, enrollment, or eligibility for benefits on whether you sign this authorization form. A few States, and some individual sources of information, require that the authorization specifically name the source that you authorize to release personal information. In those cases, we may ask you to sign one authorization for each source and we may contact you again if we need you to sign more authorizations.

You have the right to revoke this authorization at any time, except to the extent a source of information has already relied on it to take an action. To revoke, send a written statement to any Social Security Office. If you do, also send a copy directly to any of your sources that you no longer wish to disclose information about you; SSA can tell you if we identified any sources you didn't tell us about. SSA may use information disclosed prior to revocation to decide your claim.

It is SSA's policy to provide service to people with limited English proficiency in their native language or preferred mode of communication consistent with Executive Order 13166 (August 11, 2000) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. SSA makes every reasonable effort to ensure that the information in the SSA-827 is provided to you in your native or preferred language.

**Privacy Act Statement
Collection and Use of Personal Information**

Sections 205(a), 233(d)(5)(A), 1614(a)(3)(H)(i), 1631(d)(l) and 1631(e)(l)(A) of the Social Security Act as amended, [42 U.S.C. 405(a), 433(d)(5)(A), 1382c(a)(3)(H)(i), 1383(d)(l) and 1383(e)(l)(A)] authorize us to collect this information. We will use the information you provide to help us determine your eligibility, or continuing eligibility for benefits, and your ability to manage any benefits received. The information you provide is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information may prevent us from making an accurate and timely decision on your claim, and could result in denial or loss of benefits.

We rarely use the information you provide on this form for any purpose other than for the reasons explained above. However, we may use it for the administration and integrity of Social Security programs. We may also disclose information to another person or to another agency in accordance with approved routine uses, including but not limited to the following:

1. To enable a third party or an agency to assist us in establishing rights to Social Security benefits and/or coverage;
2. To comply with Federal laws requiring the release of information from our records (e.g., to the Government Accountability Office, General Services Administration, National Archives Records Administration, and the Department of Veterans Affairs);
3. To make determinations for eligibility in similar health and income maintenance programs at the Federal, State, and local level; and
4. To facilitate statistical research, audit, or investigative activities necessary to assure the integrity and improvement of our programs (e.g., to the U.S. Census Bureau and to private entities under contract with us).

We may also use the information you provide in computer matching programs. Matching programs compare our records with records kept by other Federal, State, or local government agencies. We use the information from these programs to establish or verify a person's eligibility for Federally funded or administered benefit programs and for repayment of incorrect payments or delinquent debts under these programs.

A complete list of routine uses of the information you gave us is available in our Privacy Act Systems of Records Notices entitled, Claims Folder System, 60-0089; Master Beneficiary Record, 60-0090; Supplemental Security Income record and Special Veterans benefits, 60-0103; and Electronic Disability (eDIB) Claims File, 60-0340. The notices, additional information regarding this form, and information regarding our systems and programs, are available on-line at www.socialsecurity.gov or at any Social Security office.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement - This information collection meets the requirements of 44 U.S.C. § 3507, as amended by section 2 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. You do not need to answer these questions unless we display a valid Office of Management and Budget control number. We estimate that it will take about 10 minutes to read the instructions, gather the facts, and answer the questions. **SEND OR BRING THE COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR LOCAL SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE.** You can find your local Social Security office through SSA's website at www.socialsecurity.gov. Offices are also listed under U.S. Government agencies in your telephone directory **or you may call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778)**. *You may send comments on our time estimate above to: SSA, 6401 Security Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401. Send only comments relating to our time estimate to this address, not the completed form.*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE SSA-827

THESE INSTRUCTIONS IN (INSERT LANGUAGE) PROVIDE THE WORDING ON THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE SSA-827 FORM. YOU MUST SIGN, DATE, AND RETURN THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE SSA-827 TO YOUR LOCAL SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE TO HAVE YOUR DISABILITY CLAIM PROCESSED.

WHOSE Records to be Disclosed - Please provide your first, middle, last name and suffix (if any), your social security number, and your birthdate.

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA)

****PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE FORM, BOTH PAGES, BEFORE SIGNING BELOW****

I voluntarily authorize and request disclosure (including paper, oral, and electronic interchange):

OF WHAT All my medical records; also education records and other information related to my ability to perform tasks. This includes specific permission to release :

- All records and other information regarding my treatment, hospitalization, and outpatient care for my impairment(s) including, and not limited to:**
 - Psychological, psychiatric or other mental impairment(s) (excludes "psychotherapy notes" as defined in 45 CFR164.501)
 - Drug abuse, alcoholism, or other substance abuse
 - Sickle cell anemia
 - Records which may indicate the presence of a communicable or noncommunicable disease; and tests for or records HIV/AIDS
 - Gene-related impairments (including genetic test results)
- Information about how my impairment(s) affects my ability to complete tasks and activities of daily living, and affects my ability to work.**
- Copies of educational tests or evaluations, including Individualized Educational Programs, triennial assessments, psychological and speech evaluations, and any other records that can help evaluate function; also teachers' observations and evaluations.**
- Information created within 12 months after the date this authorization is signed, as well as past information.**

FROM WHOM

- All medical sources (hospitals, clinics, labs, physicians, psychologists, etc.) including mental health, correctional, addiction treatment, and VA health care facilities
- All educational sources (schools, teachers, records administrators, counselors, etc.)
- Social workers/rehabilitation counselors
- Consulting examiners used by SSA
- Employers, insurance companies, workers' compensation programs
- Others who may know about my condition (family, neighbors, friends, public officials)

TO WHOM

The Social Security Administration and to the State agency authorized to process my case (usually called "disability determination services"), including contract copy services, and doctors or other professionals consulted during the process. [Also, for international claims, to the U.S. Department of State Foreign Service Post.]

PURPOSE

Determining my eligibility for benefits, including looking at the combined effect of any impairments that by themselves would not meet SSA's definition of disability; and whether I can manage such benefits.

Check the box to the left on the English SSA-827 if we are ONLY determining whether you are capable of managing benefits.

EXPIRES WHEN This authorization is good for 12 months from the date signed (below my signature).

- I authorize the use of a copy (including electronic copy) of this form for the disclosure of the information described above.
- I understand that there are some circumstances in which this information may be redisclosed to other parties (see page 2 for details).
- I may write to SSA and my sources to revoke this authorization at any time (see page 2 EXPLANATION OF FORM SSA-827). SSA will give me a copy of this form if I ask; I may ask the source to allow me to inspect or get a copy of material to be disclosed.
- I have read both pages of this form and agree to the disclosures above from the types of sources listed.**

PLEASE SIGN USING BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY.

INDIVIDUAL authorizing disclosure

SIGN The individual must sign and date this authorization, and provide his or her telephone number with area code, street address, city, state and zip code.

IF not signed by subject of disclosure, specify basis for authority to sign.

Check the appropriate box on the English SSA-827 to indicate whether the person signing is the parent of a minor, guardian, or other personal representative (explain). Sign the English SSA-827 in the space provided if two signatures are required by State law.

WITNESS: In this section of the English SSA-827, one who knows the person signing the form should sign as a witness and provide his or her phone number or address. There is space for a second witness if needed.

This general and special authorization to disclose was developed to comply with the provisions regarding disclosure of medical, educational, and other information under P.L. 104-191 ("HIPAA"); 45 CFR parts 160 and 164; 42 U.S. Code section 290dd-2; 42 CFR part 2; 38 U.S. Code section 7332; 38 CFR 1.475; 20 U.S. Code section 1232g ("FERPA"); 34 CFR parts 99 and 300; and State law.

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3. To make determinations for eligibility in similar health and income maintenance programs at the Federal, State, and local level; and
4. To facilitate statistical research, audit, or investigative activities necessary to assure the integrity and improvement of our programs (e.g., to the U.S. Census Bureau and to private entities under contract with us).

We may also use the information you provide in computer matching programs. Matching programs compare our records with records kept by other Federal, State, or local government agencies. We use the information from these programs to establish or verify a person's eligibility for Federally funded or administered benefit programs and for repayment of incorrect payments or delinquent debts under these programs.

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PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

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