




Social Security:
With You Through Life's Journey…

GO DIGITAL







Produced at U.S. taxpayer expense

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Please use your smartphone to create your personal *my* Social Security account at **ssa.gov/myaccount** or scan the QR code below.

To create an account, you must:



Be at least 18 years of age



Have a Social Security number



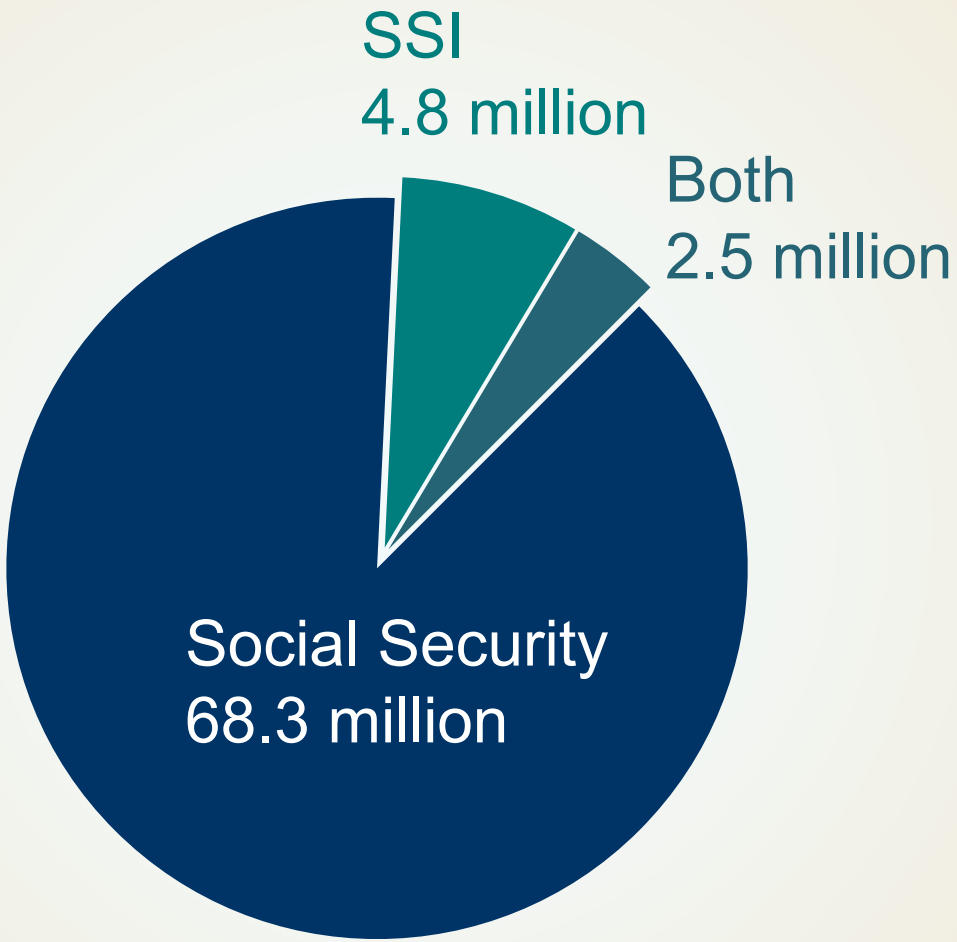
Have an email address

Disclaimer

This information is current at the time of the presentation, but Social Security policy is subject to change. Please visit SSA.gov for up-to-date information on our programs.

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Social Security Program Beneficiaries



May 2026

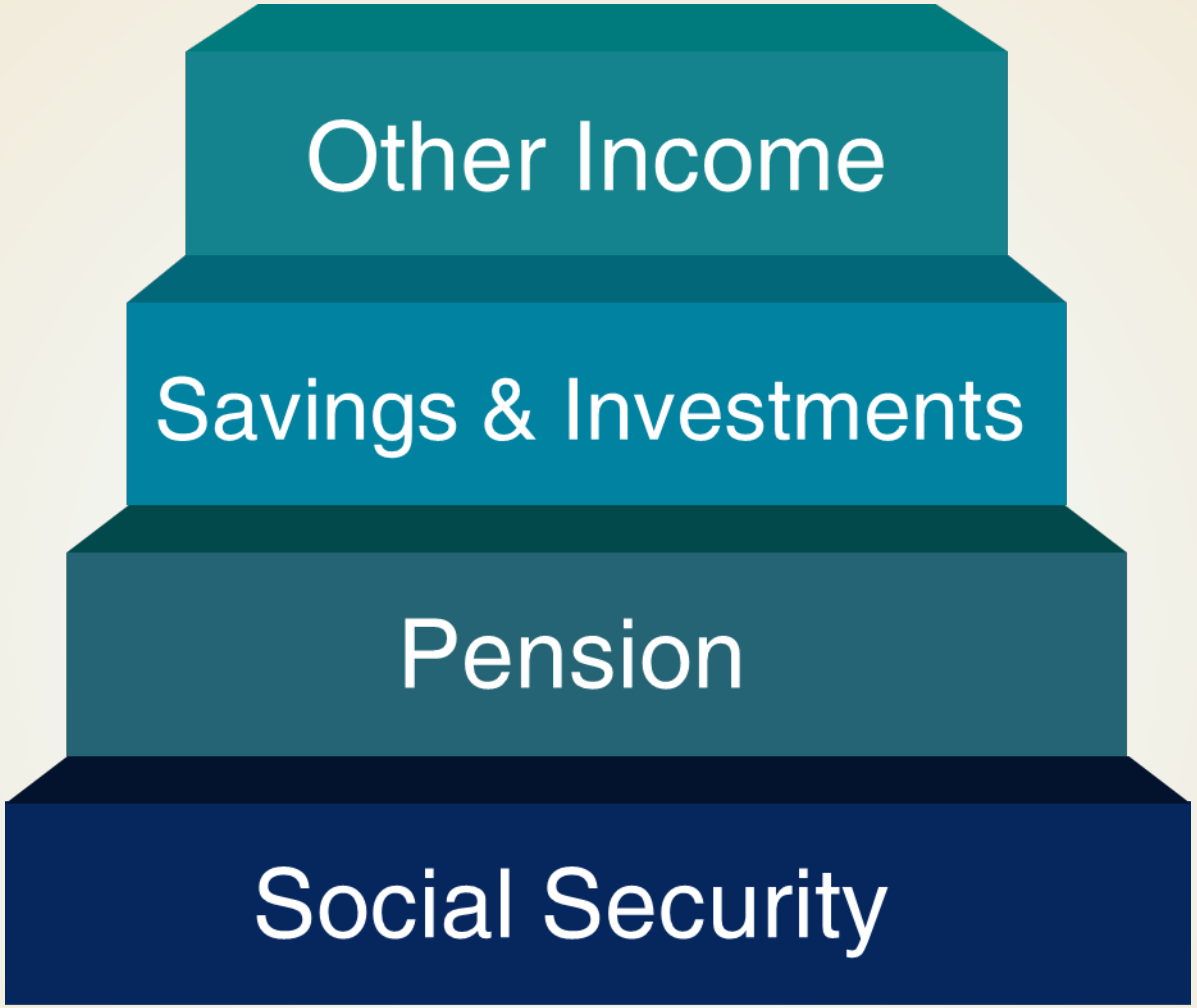
Did You Know?



As of January 2026, we paid **$111.7 billion dollars** per month to **53.8 million** retired workers.



At the same time, we paid **$2.7 billion dollars** in monthly Social Security benefits to **2.8 million dependents** of retired workers.


Other Income
Savings & Investments
Pension
Social Security



What is FICA?

- Stands for Federal Insurance Contributions Act
  - May show on paycheck as OASDI or Social Security
- Federal payroll tax deducted from workers' paychecks, matched by employer, and reported by employer to IRS
- Total FICA tax = 15.3% of gross wages. You and your employer each pay 7.65%
  - 6.2% for Social Security
  - 1.45% for Medicare
- FICA taxes help fund Social Security retirement, disability, survivor benefits and Medicare health insurance



How Do You Become Eligible for Retirement Benefits?

- By earning “credits” when you work and pay Social Security taxes
- You need 40 credits (10 years of work) and you must be 62 or older
- In 2026, each $1,890 in earnings gives you one credit
- You can earn a maximum of 4 credits per year

Note: To earn 4 credits in 2026, you must earn at least $7,560.

ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/planner/credits.html



How Social Security Determines Your Benefit

Benefits are based on earnings

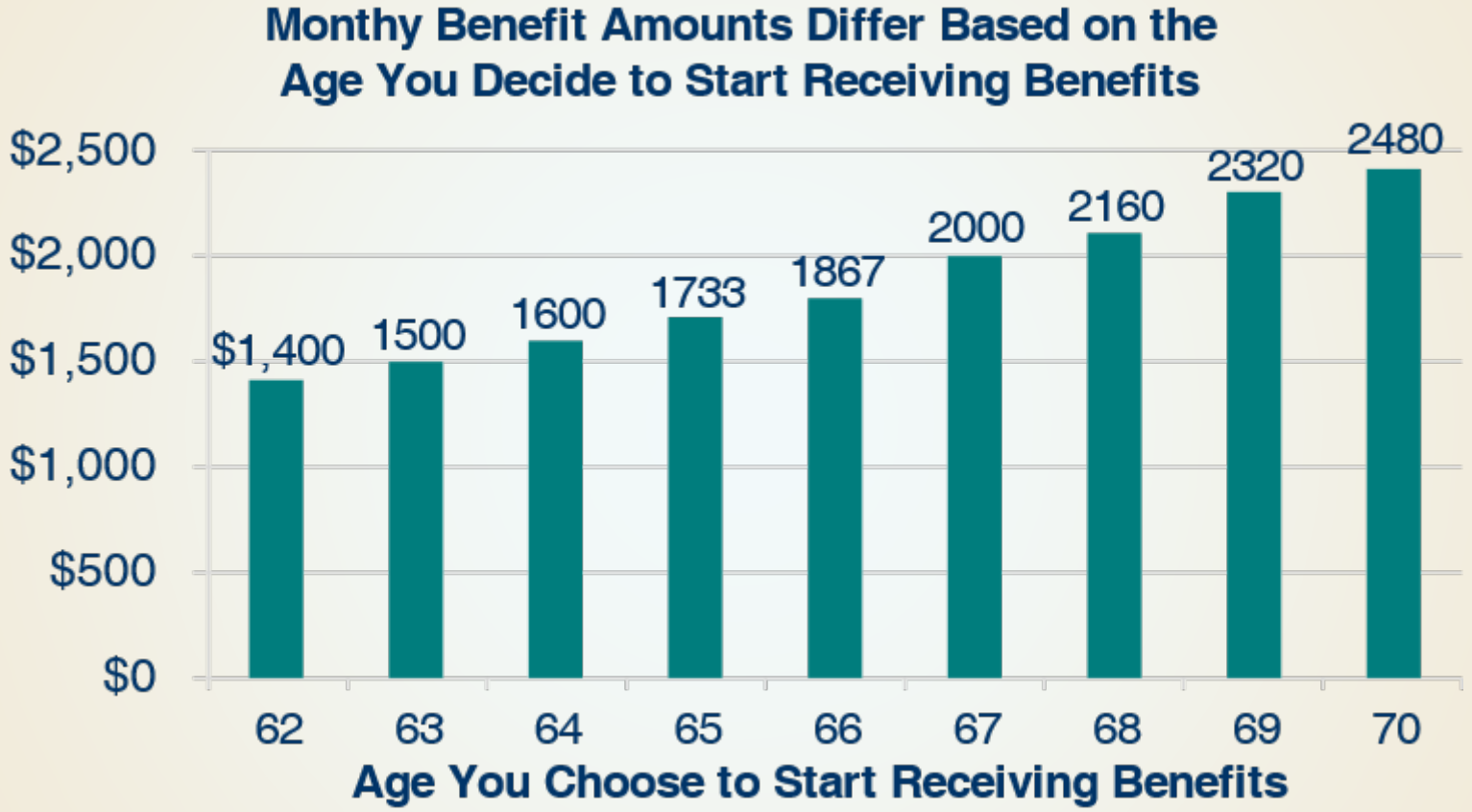
Step 1 - Your wages are adjusted for changes in wage levels over time

Step 2 - Find the monthly average of your 35 highest earnings years

Step 3 - Result is “average indexed monthly earnings”

ssa.gov/OACT/COLA/Benefits.html

What Is the Best Age to Start Receiving Social Security Retirement Benefits?



Note: This example assumes a benefit of $2,000 at a full retirement age of 67

Benefits Chart by Age

Year of Birth	Full Retirement Age	A $1000 retirement benefit taken at age 62 would be reduced by	A $500 spouse benefit taken at age 62 would be reduced by
1943-1954	66	25%	30%
1955	66 and 2 months	25.83%	30.83%
1956	66 and 4 months	26.67%	31.67%
1957	66 and 6 months	27.5%	32.5%
1958	66 and 8 months	28.33%	33.33%
1959	66 and 10 months	29.17%	34.17%
1960 +	67	30%	35%

ssa.gov/oact/quickcalc/earlyretire.html

Working While Receiving Benefits

If you are	In 2026, you can earn up to	If you earn more, some benefits will be withheld
Under Full Retirement Age	$24,480/yr.	$1 for every $2 earned above the limit
The Year Full Retirement Age is Reached	$65,160/yr. before month of full retirement age	$1 for every $3 earned above the limit
Month of Full Retirement Age and Above	No Limit	No Limit

Retirement Earnings Test Calculator:
ssa.gov/OACT/COLA/RTeffect.html

Securing today and tomorrow

**2025 = $23,400; $62,160*
**2024 = $22,320; $59,520*

SSA.gov

Working While Receiving Benefits

Retirement Choices	Continue Working	Stop Working
Claim Benefits	Option A	Option B
Not Claim Benefits	Option C	Option D



Benefits for a Spouse

- Maximum benefit = 50% of worker's unreduced benefit
- Reduction for early retirement
- If spouse's own benefit is less than 50% of the worker's, they will be combined to equal to 50% of the worker's
- Does not reduce payment to the worker
- Benefit is unreduced if claiming spouse is caring for a child who is under age 16 or who has a disability
- Spouse benefits are not payable until worker collects

ssa.gov/planners/retire/yourspouse.html



Benefits for Divorced Spouses

You may receive benefits on your former spouse's record (even if he or she has remarried) if:

- Marriage lasted at least 10 years
- You are unmarried
- You are age 62 or older
- Your ex-spouse is at least 62 and eligible for Social Security retirement or disability benefits, even if not collecting
- Benefit you would receive based on your own work is less than benefit you would receive based on ex-spouse's work

ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/planner/applying7.html#h4

We're There If You Lose A Loved One



Securing today and tomorrow

SSA.gov

Survivors Benefits

Child	May receive benefits if unmarried and younger than age 18, or between ages 18 and 19 and a full-time high school student
Disabled Child	May receive benefits after age 18 if unmarried and has a disability that started before age 22
Surviving Spouse or Divorced Surviving Spouse Note: Remarriage after age 60 will not affect benefits.	May receive full benefits at full retirement age or reduced benefits: • as early as age 60 • as early as 50 and has a disability • at any age if caring for a child of a deceased worker who is under age 16, has a disability, and receives child's benefits

ssa.gov/survivors



Survivors Benefits

When you pass away, your surviving spouse may:

- Claim survivors benefits as early as age 50 if they have a disability, otherwise any age between 60 and full retirement age;
- At age 60, receive 71.5% of your full benefit and increases each month they wait up to 100% if they start at full retirement age; or
- At full retirement age, receive 100% of your unreduced benefit.

Spouse vs. Surviving Spouse Benefits

Spouse (living)	Surviving Spouse (deceased)
May start as early as age 62	May start as early as age 60 or as early as 50 if disabled
50% if you wait until FRA or later	71.5% at age 60, increases each month you wait
Less than 50% if you start before FRA (reduction for each month you take benefit early)	100% if you start at FRA or later

Certain conditions must be met.

ssa.gov/survivor/eligibility



Auxiliary Benefits for Children

A child must have:

- A parent entitled to benefits due to disability or retirement *(Life Claim);* or
- A parent who died after having worked long enough in a job where they paid Social Security taxes *(Survivor Claim)*

Benefit Amount 50%

Benefit Amount 75%

The child must also be:

- Unmarried;
- Younger than age 18;
- 18-19 years old and a full-time high school student;
- ***18 or older and have a disability that started before age 22. (DAC)***

ssa.gov/family

SSA's Two Different "Disability" Benefits: SSDI and SSI

The Social Security Act defines disability as:

- A person who cannot work due to a severe medical condition that has lasted, or is expected to last, at least one year or result in death; or
- The person's medical condition must prevent them from doing **substantial gainful employment** – work that they did in the past, and it must prevent the person from adjusting to other work.

"Substantial gainful activity" (SGA) is a term used to describe a level of work activity and earnings. Consistently being above this level could lead to ineligibility for disability benefits. We generally use earnings guidelines to evaluate whether your work activity is SGA.

SSDI and SSI

Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits (SSDI)

- The SSDI program pays disability benefits to you and certain family members, if you **worked long enough – and recently enough** – under Social Security. It's important to be prepared before filing an application for disability benefits. We have important information about the basics of the SSDI program, eligibility criteria, and the application process to make it easier to help.
- Family members can be paid off “Worker’s” earnings record.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- SSI provides critical financial help to aged, blind, and people with disabilities who have **limited income and resources.** Learn if the person you are helping is eligible and help them apply.
- No family member benefits; one SSI entitlement per one SSN.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Who Can Get SSI?

- Age 65 or older
- Blind—any age
- **Disabled—any age**
- Limited income
- Limited resources
- Special Requirements for Noncitizens



Limited Income & Limited Resources

Income

Earned	Unearned
Wages	SSA benefits
Net earnings from self-employment	Veteran's benefits
Payment for services in sheltered workshop	Unemployment benefits
	Interests
	Pensions
	Cash from family/friends

Resources

Included Resources	Excluded Resources
Bank Accounts (CDs, IRAs)	Home in which you live
Stocks, Bonds, 401Ks (Liquid Assets)	First car
Second Car	Burial plots for self & family
Life Insurance	Some resources set aside for burial
Property other than where you live	



Definition of Disability - Child

The child must have a medical condition or a combination of conditions, that results in "***marked and severe functional limitations***."

- This means that the condition(s) must very seriously limit the child's activities.
- The child's condition(s) must have been disabling or be expected to be disabling for at least 12 months; or the condition(s) must be expected to result in death.



SSI Requirements for Children

- Disabled children living in households with limited income and resources may be eligible to receive SSI benefits.
- For eligibility, the income and assets of the disabled child and parent(s) living in the household are assessed.

Children's income examples:

- Child support
- Social Security auxiliary benefits
- Gifts

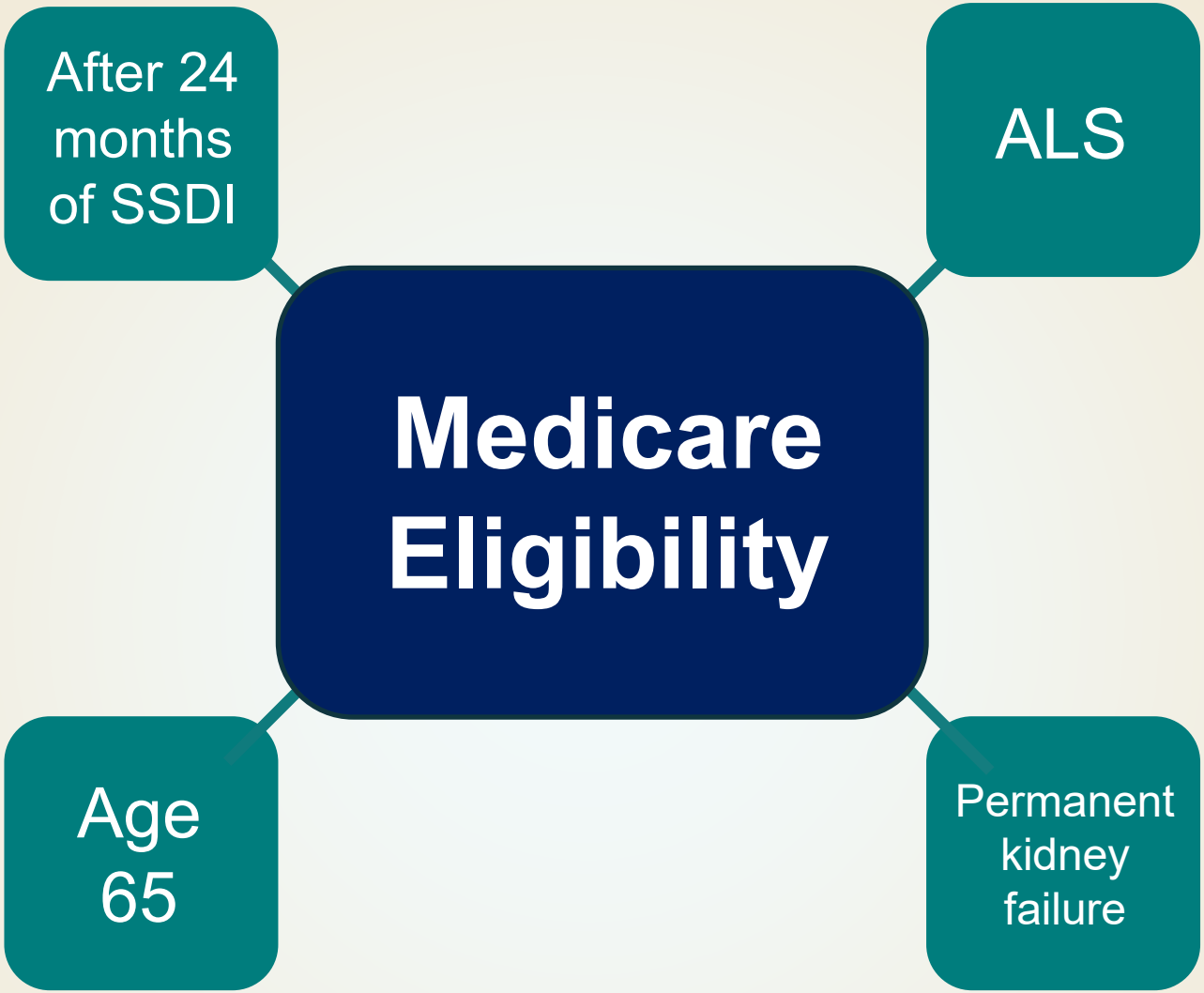


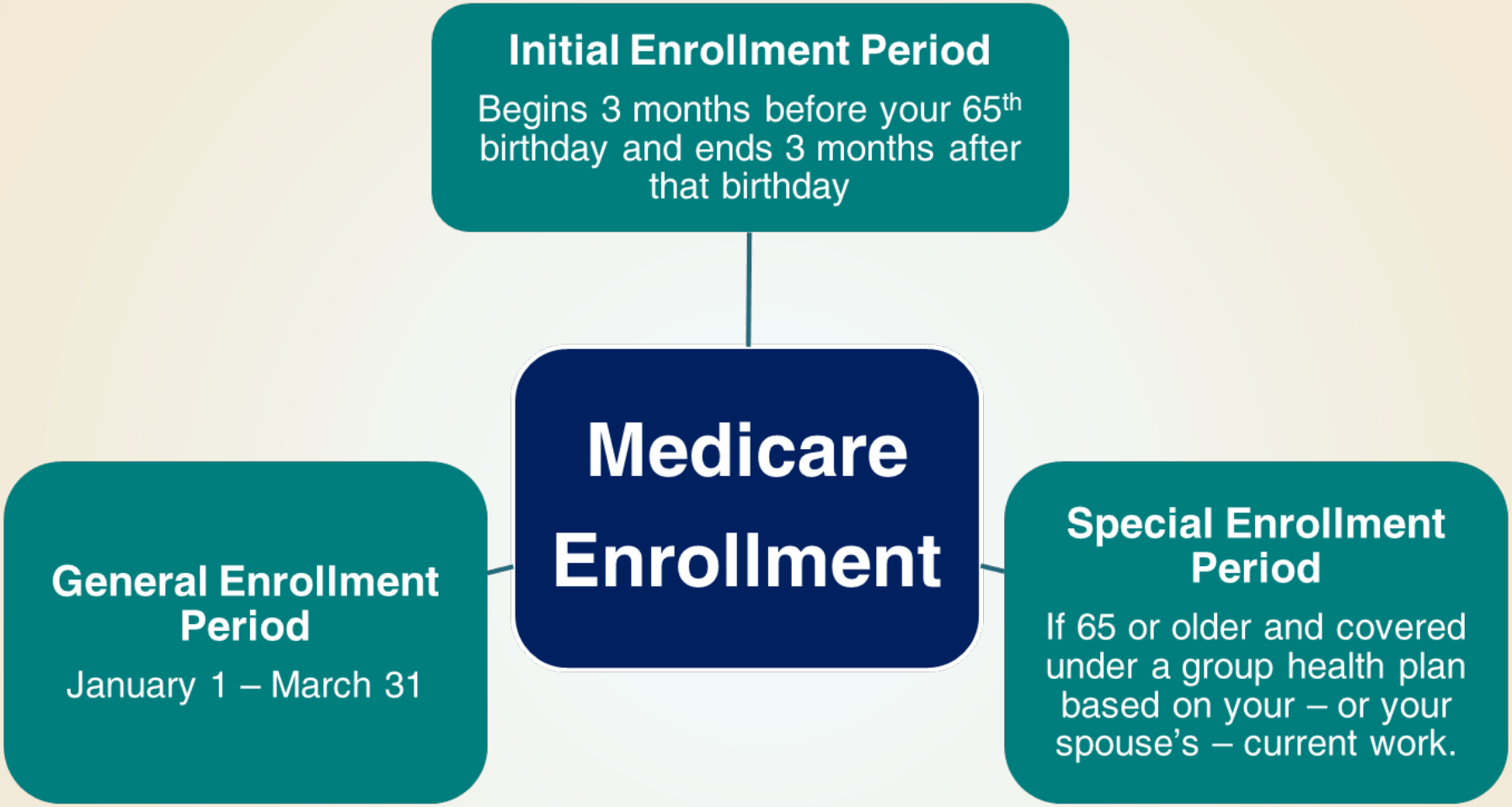
Deeming

What is it?
The process of determining how much of a parent(s) income and resources will count is called deeming.

When does it apply?
If the parent(s) has income and/or resources that we must consider and:

- the child is under 18; and
- lives at home with his or her natural, or adoptive parents(s); or
- lives away at school, but comes home on some weekends, holidays, or school vacations and is subject to parental control.


After 24 months of SSDI
ALS
Medicare Eligibility
Age 65
Permanent kidney failure


Initial Enrollment Period
Begins 3 months before your 65th birthday and ends 3 months after that birthday
Medicare Enrollment
General Enrollment Period
January 1 – March 31
Special Enrollment Period
If 65 or older and covered under a group health plan based on your – or your spouse's – current work.



Part A – Hospital Insurance

Helps cover:

- Inpatient care in hospitals
- Skilled nursing facility care
- Hospice care
- Home health care



Part B – Medical Insurance

Helps cover:

- Services from doctors and other health care providers
- Outpatient care
- Home health care
- Durable medical equipment (like wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, and other equipment)
- Many preventive services (like screenings, shots or vaccines, and yearly "Wellness" visits)



Part D – Drug coverage

Helps cover the cost of prescription drugs (including many recommended shots or vaccines).

Plans that offer Medicare drug coverage (Part D) are run by private insurance companies that follow rules set by Medicare.

Original Medicare

- Original Medicare includes Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance).
- You can join a separate Medicare drug plan to get Medicare drug coverage (Part D).
- You can use any doctor or hospital that takes Medicare, anywhere in the U.S.
- You can also shop for and buy supplemental coverage that helps pay your out-of-pocket costs (like your 20% coinsurance).

☑ **Part A**



☑ **Part B**



You can add:

☐ **Part D**



You can also add:

☐ **Supplemental coverage**



It can help pay some costs that other parts don't cover. This includes Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap). Go to page 75 to learn more about Medigap. Or you can use coverage from a current or former employer or union, or Medicaid (if you have it).

Original Medicare
← ← ←

vs.

Medicare Advantage (Part C)
→ → →

Medicare Advantage (also known as Part C)

- Medicare Advantage is a Medicare-approved plan from a private company that offers an alternative to Original Medicare for your health and drug coverage. These "bundled" plans include Part A, Part B, and usually Part D.
- In many cases, you can only use doctors who are in the plan's network.
- In many cases, you may need to get approval from your plan before it covers certain drugs or services.
- Plans often have different out-of-pocket costs than Original Medicare or supplemental coverage like Medigap. You may also have an additional premium.
- Plans may offer some extra benefits that Original Medicare doesn't.

☑ **Part A**



☑ **Part B**



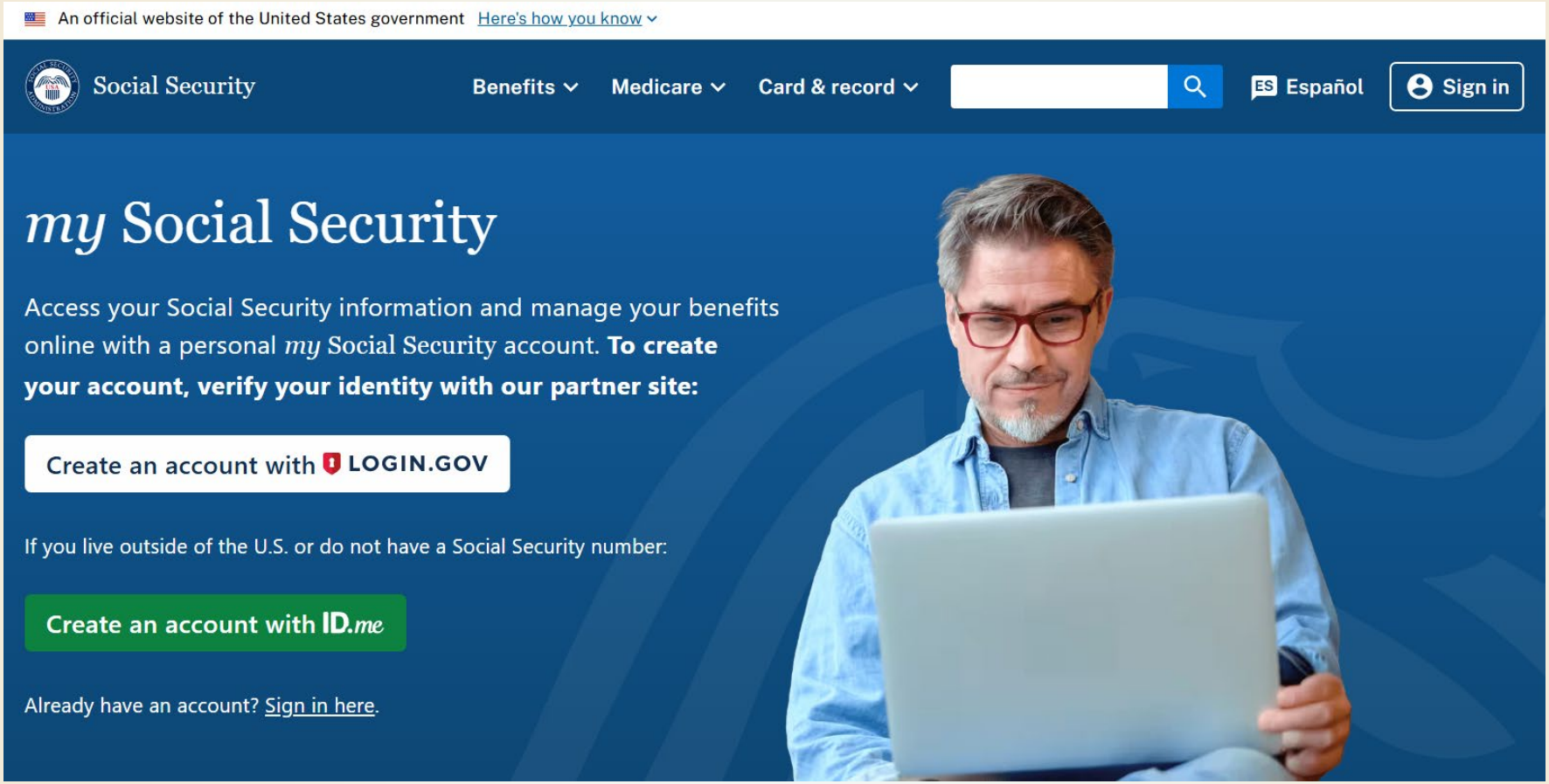
Most plans include:

☑ **Part D**



☑ **Some extra benefits**

my Social Security



ssa.gov/myaccount

my Social Security **Services**

If you receive benefits or have Medicare, you can:

- Opt out of mailed notices for those available online.
- Request a replacement Social Security card if you meet certain requirements.
- Report your wages if you work and receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.
- Get a benefit verification letter as proof that you are getting benefits.
- Check your earnings record, benefit, and payment information.
- Change your address and phone number (Social Security beneficiaries only).
- Start or change direct deposit of your benefit payment (Social Security beneficiaries only).
- Submit your advance designation of representative payee request*.
- Request a replacement Medicare card.
- Get a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S for tax season.
- Complete the Medical Continuing Disability Review Report (SSA-454).

ssa.gov/myaccount/what.html

my Social Security **Services**

If you do not receive benefits, you can:

- View retirement benefit estimates at different ages or dates when you want to start receiving benefits.
- View possible spouse's benefits.
- Request a replacement Social Security card if you meet certain requirements.
- Check the status of your application or appeal.
- Get a benefit verification letter as proof that you are not getting benefits.
- Get your *Social Security Statement* to review:
  - Estimates of your future retirement, disability, and survivor benefits.
  - Your recent earnings history, to verify the amounts that we posted are correct.
  - The estimated Social Security and Medicare taxes you've paid.

ssa.gov/myaccount/what.html

Sample Social Security *Statement*

Your Social Security Statement

WANDA WORKER

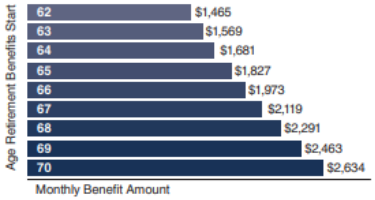
April 28, 2025

Retirement Benefits

You have earned enough credits to qualify for retirement benefits. To qualify for benefits, you earn "credits" through your work — up to four each year. Your full retirement age is **67**, based on your date of birth: April 5, 1962. As shown in the chart, you can start your benefits at any time between ages **62** and **70**. **For each month you wait to start your benefits, your monthly benefit will be higher—for the rest of your life.**

These personalized estimates are based on your earnings to date and assume you continue to earn $54,489 per year until you start your benefits. Learn more at *ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/learn.html*.

Personalized Monthly Retirement Benefit Estimates (Depending on the Age You Start)



Disability Benefits

You have earned enough credits to qualify for disability benefits. If you became disabled right now and you have enough recent work, your monthly payment would be about **$2,083**. Learn more at *ssa.gov/disability*.

Survivors Benefits

You have earned enough credits for your eligible family members to receive survivors benefits. If you die this year, members of your family who may qualify for monthly benefits include:

Minor child:	**$1,562**
Spouse, if caring for a disabled child or child younger than age 16:	**$1,562**
Spouse, if benefits start at full retirement age:	**$2,083**
Total family benefits cannot be more than:	**$3,802**

Your spouse or minor child may be eligible for an additional one-time death benefit of **$255**. Learn more at *ssa.gov/survivors*.

Medicare

You have enough credits to qualify for Medicare at age 65. Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people:

- age 65 and older,
- under 65 with certain disabilities, and
- of any age with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant).

Even if you do not retire at age 65, you may need to sign up for Medicare within 3 months of your 65th birthday to **avoid a lifetime late enrollment penalty**. Special rules may apply if you are covered by certain group health plans through work.

For more information about Medicare, visit *medicare.gov* or *ssa.gov/medicare* or call **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)** (TTY **1-877-486-2048**).

We base benefit estimates on current law, which Congress has revised before and may revise again to address needed changes. Learn more about Social Security's future at *ssa.gov/ThereForMe*.

Earnings Record

Review your earnings history below to ensure it is accurate because we base your future benefits on our record of your earnings. There's a limit to the amount of earnings you pay Social Security taxes on each year. Earnings above the limit do not appear on your earnings record. We have combined your earlier years of earnings below, but you can view your complete earnings record online with *my* Social Security. **If you find an error,** view your full earnings record online and call **1-800-772-1213**.

Work Year	Earnings Taxed for Social Security	Earnings Taxed for Medicare (began 1966)
1971-1980	$ 2,142	$ 2,142
1981-1990	87,102	87,102
1991-2000	246,069	246,069
2001	34,147	34,147
2002	34,846	34,846
2003	36,021	36,021
2004	38,032	38,032
2005	39,711	39,711
2006	41,829	41,829
2007	43,971	43,971
2008	45,170	45,170
2009	44,603	44,603
2010	45,666	45,847
2011	47,093	47,093
2012	48,560	48,560
2013	49,095	49,095
2014	50,605	50,605
2015	51,996	51,996
2016	52,108	52,108
2017	53,251	53,251
2018	53,966	53,966
2019	54,559	54,559
2020	54,489	54,489
2021	Not yet recorded	

Taxes Paid

Total estimated Social Security and Medicare taxes paid over your working career based on your Earnings Record:

Social Security taxes	Medicare taxes
You paid: $75,568	You paid: $18,158
Employer(s): $77,498	Employer(s): $18,158

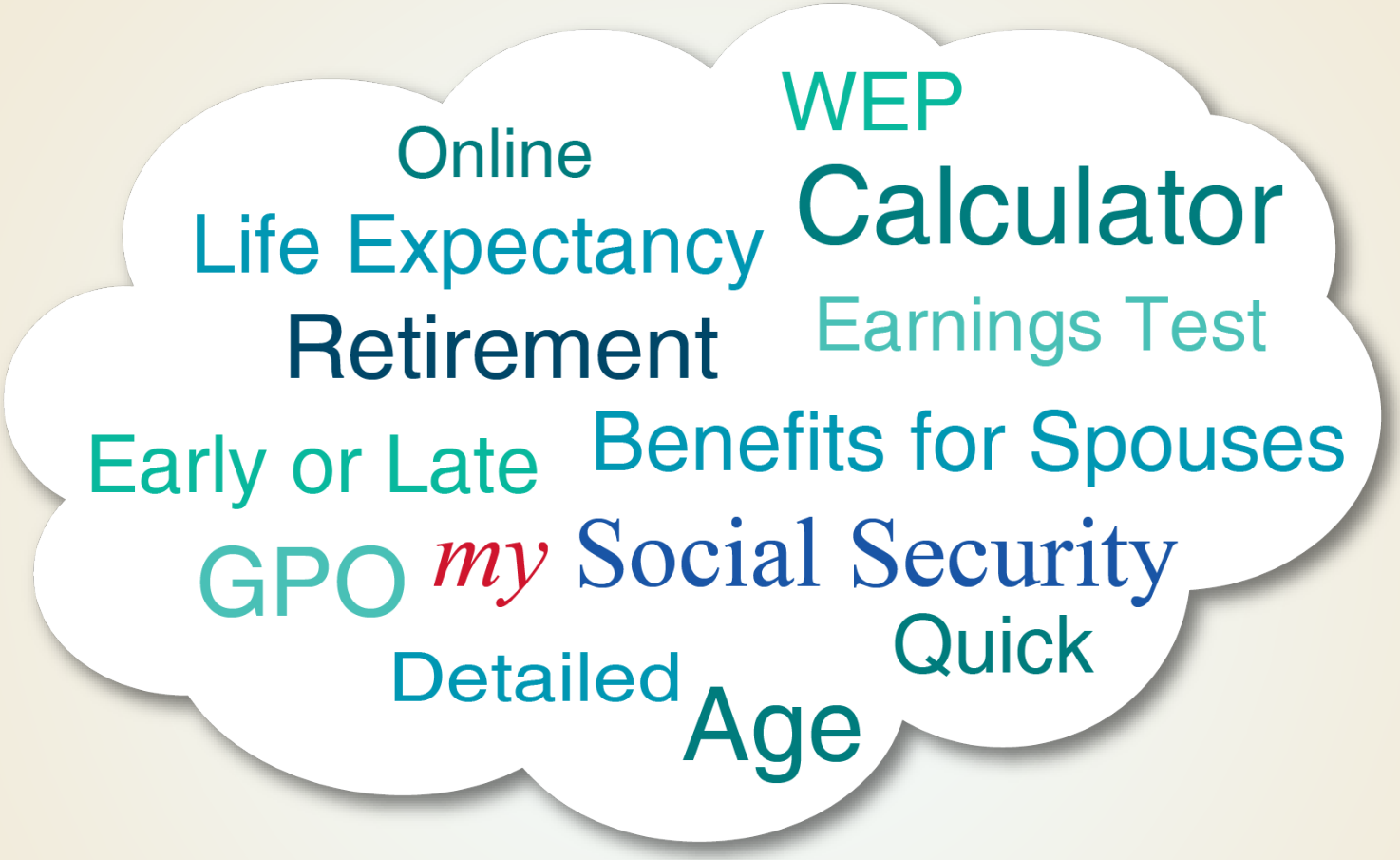
Important Things to Know about Your Social Security Benefits

- Social Security benefits are not intended to be your only source of retirement income. You may need other savings, investments, pensions, or retirement accounts to make sure you have enough money when you retire.
- You need at least 10 years of work (40 credits) to qualify for retirement benefits. Your benefit amount is based on your highest 35 years of earnings. If you have fewer than 35 years of earnings, years without work count as 0 and may reduce your benefit amount.
- To keep up with inflation, benefits are adjusted through "cost of living adjustments."
- If you get retirement or disability benefits, your spouse and children may qualify for benefits.
- When you apply for either retirement or spousal benefits, you may be required to apply for both benefits at the same time.
- If you and your spouse both work, use the *my* Social Security Retirement Calculator to estimate spousal benefits.
- The age you claim benefits will affect the benefit amount for your surviving spouse. For example, claiming benefits after your full retirement age may increase the *Spouse, if benefits start at full retirement age* amount on page 1; claiming early may reduce it.
- If you are divorced and were married for 10 years, you may be able to claim benefits on your ex-spouse's record. If your ex-spouse receives benefits on your record, that does not affect your or your current spouse's benefit amounts.
- If you receive a pension from earnings not covered by Social Security, your benefits may have been reduced prior to January 2024. The *Social Security Fairness Act* ended the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset. Learn more at *ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/social-security-fairness-act.html*.
- Learn more about benefits for you and your family at *ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/planner/applying7.html*.
- When you are ready to apply, visit *ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/apply.html*.
- The Statement is updated annually. It is available online, or by mail upon request.

SSA.gov | Follow us on social media *ssa.gov/socialmedia*

Form SSA-7005-SM-OL (04/25) | Enclosures: Publication XX-XXXXX, Publication XX-XXXXX

Social Security's Online Calculators



ssa.gov/benefits/calculators



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Q&A Session

