

When will Social Security begin paying benefits to same-sex married couples and surviving spouses?

Social Security is now processing some retirement, surviving spouse and lump-sum death payment claims for same-sex couples and paying benefits where they are due. We also are considering same-sex marriages when processing some claims for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). We are working with the Department of Justice to develop and implement additional policy and processing instructions. If you believe you may be eligible for retirement or survivors benefits or SSI, we encourage you to [apply now](#) to protect you against the loss of any potential benefits. We will process claims as soon as additional instructions become finalized.

If you have questions about how a same-sex marriage may affect your claim, please call [1-800-772-1213](tel:1-800-772-1213) (TTY [1-800-325-0778](tel:1-800-325-0778)) or contact your local Social Security office.

To learn more about this topic, visit the link below:

<https://ssa.parature.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=34019&task=knowledge&questionID=3536>