

If You Did Not Hire a Social Security Lawyer, Can You Still Get Copies of Your File Before a Hearing?

Q: How do you make sure you are prepared for a scheduled hearing for a social security disability claim?

A: What can be a long process for some disability claims culminates in a scheduled hearing, which gives the claimant a final chance to thoroughly present the aspects of his case. It is important, therefore, to be ready for your hearing. Having an advocate like a social security lawyer on your side during the process can be extremely beneficial. Statistically, a [social security lawyer](#) provides representation for most cases that are awarded benefits after being heard by an administrative judge. Although your attorney will help assure you are prepared, there are some things you can do to feel confident going into your hearing. First, know when and where your hearing is scheduled. Map it out ahead of time, if you are unfamiliar with the location. Build in plenty of transportation time, so you will not be late. You do not want to be late for your own hearing and risk having your case rescheduled. It is in your best interest to have your case heard as soon as possible. Once in the hearing room, be respectful of the etiquette required in legal proceedings and wear suitable attire. Another helpful item to assure that you are ready for your scheduled hearing is confirming that the court office has received the most recent medical records for your claim. Your claim cannot be adjudicated appropriately, unless the judge has recent and thorough data about your condition. If you are working with a social security lawyer, he or she will do this for you. The last helpful hint is simply to understand your own case. If you have a lawyer, you need not worry so much about this one since he or she will have your files and understand your case well. For those who will not be represented by an attorney, requesting a copy and reviewing the files in advance of the scheduled hearing is crucial. All claimants are entitled to receive a copy of their files at any point. Do so as soon as your hearing has been scheduled, so you can be confident that you are prepared.

Q: If you do not have a social security lawyer, how do you get updates on a claim?

A: A social security lawyer will keep tabs on where your case is in the process, but if you do not have one, it is smart to do it yourself. The most direct line to checking the status of your claim is to contact the disability examiner for your particular case. If you do not have contact information for that examiner, contact the social security office where you filed your claim and ask for the number. Make sure to tell them that you are calling regarding the status of your claim. You can also check the status of your claim online at <https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/IAPS/applicationStatus>.

Q: Are you allowed to submit a disability application with Social Security via the internet?

A: You are allowed to submit an application with the official Social Security web site. Visit <http://www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability> for more information. The site also has some tools to help you determine if you qualify for benefits and estimate payments. Related Content [Social security lawyer florida](#) -- [Veterans disability lawyer](#) --

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