

## SOCIAL SECURITY VERIFICATION LETTERS

EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2014 SOCIAL SECURITY WILL STOP PROVIDING BENEFIT VERIFICATION LETTERS IN THEIR OFFICES. APPLICANTS WILL STILL BE ABLE TO GET BENEFIT VERIFICATION LETTER USING THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

- 1) BY SETTING UP A MY SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT AT <http://ssa.gov/>. APPLICANTS MUST HAVE THEIR OWN PERSONAL EMAIL ACCOUNT TO REQUEST A BENEFIT VERIFICATION LETTER ONLINE.

OR

- 2) BY CALLING THE TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-800-772-1213 TO REQUEST A BENEFIT VERIFICATION LETTER TO BE MAILED TO THEM.

## Definition: *my* Social Security Benefit Verification Letter

### Benefit Verification Letter

If you need proof that you are receiving Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and/or Medicare, **or** that you are not getting benefits, you can request a benefit verification letter online. This letter is sometimes called a "budget letter," a "benefits letter," a "proof of income letter," or a "proof of award letter."

What is a benefit verification letter? It is an official letter from Social Security that you can use as proof of your:

- income when you apply for a loan or mortgage;
- income for assisted housing or other state or local benefits;
- current Medicare health insurance coverage;
- retirement status;
- disability; and/or
- age.

You can select the information you want included in, or left out of, your online benefit verification letter.

**Note:** If you applied for benefits but have not received an answer yet, you can request a benefit verification letter that shows your claim is still pending.