

Disability Determination Services (DDS) Social Security Disability Claim Process

Applicant files claim at local Social Security Office.	 Field Office sends claim to DDS where it is assigned to a Disability Examiner.
Disability Examiner analyzes application and relevant medical and employment records to determine whether disability criteria as established by the Social Security Administration (SSA) are met. Disability Examiner may received advice from in-house medical and mental health consultants.	DDS schedules and sends applicant for a Consultative Examination (CE). CE report is completed by independent consultant and returned to the DDS for review.
If there is sufficient medical/mental health evidence to make a determination	
Disability Examiner makes determination based on Federal regulations. Disability	SSA notifies individual of final determination.
then notifies SSA of the determination. Disability Examiner: Medical/Mental Health C DDS employee who reviews SSA Licensed doctor, contracted by Disability application and may contact helps assess the applicant's phenoteneous disability.	y DDS, who Exam that may be ordered and paid for by