

Richard A. Courtney, CELA
Certified Elder Law Attorney
4400 Old Canton Road, Suite 220
Jackson, Mississippi 39211
601-987-3000 or 1-866-ELDERLAW
For more Articles, go to: www.elderlawms.com



MEMBER

Social Security Calculator Now Available to Delayed Retirees

Social Security's [Retirement Estimator](#) is now available for people who have signed up for Medicare but have not yet signed up for Social Security because they are delaying retirement. The popular calculator allows you to project what your monthly Social Security benefit will be based on your actual work record. Previously, "Medicare only" beneficiaries could not use the estimator and had to contact a Social Security office to get an estimate of their retirement benefits.

While the calculator requires inputting personal information like your Social Security number, date of birth and mother's maiden name, it is tied to your actual Social Security earnings record, so you don't need to manually input years of earnings records. The Retirement Estimator is also interactive, allowing you to compare different retirement options by changing your "stop work" dates or expected earnings. With the click of the mouse, you can calculate the difference in benefits if you retired at age 62 rather than, say, 66, and how reducing your current income by switching to part-time work will affect your benefit.

Because more and more people are delaying retirement, the Social Security Administration decided to expand the calculator to those individuals. It is also planning on making the estimator available in Spanish later this year. You cannot use the calculator if you do not have enough Social Security credits at this time to qualify for benefits or you are already receiving Social Security benefits.

To access the Retirement Estimator, go to <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator/>.

To discuss the planning you must do for your financial security in retirement, call us today at 866-ELDERLAW.