



Contact:

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Ryan C. Sheppard, CPA, CFF
Partner
Knight Rollerl Sheppard CPAS, LLP
rcs@krscpasllp.com

Q. What types of Social Security benefits are available to the public?

A. Social Security is officially called Old Age, Survivor and Disability Insurance (OASDI). This covers retirement, survivor, and disability benefits to eligible recipients.

Q. When can Social Security retirement benefits be taken?

A. Retirement benefits can be taken as early as age 62. If you are born after 1960, full retirement age is age 67. You may delay taking your benefits to age 70.

Q. What is the benefit of delaying Social Security retirement benefits to age 70?

A. For retirees born after 1960, for every year you delay retirement benefits, your benefits are increased 8.0% per year. As an example, if you're entitled to 100% of your benefits at age 67; delaying to age 70 will provide 124% of your total benefits (8.0% for three years).

Q. What is the benefit of taking Social Security benefits at age 62?

A. Life expectancy plays a major role in this decision. Despite your benefits being reduced by 30% at age 62, some retirees may not be healthy enough to wait to delay their benefits and will receive lesser total benefit checks over their remaining lifetimes. Consult your CPA for more information.

Q. How are Social Security retirement benefits taxed?

A. The tax is dependent on your combined income, which is your adjusted gross income + 50% of your annual social security benefits + tax-exempt interest. For married filing jointly taxpayers, 0% of your benefits are taxable if combined income is less than \$32,000. For combined incomes between \$32,000-\$44,000, 50%-85% of the benefits are taxable. If combined income is greater than \$44,000, then 85% of your benefits are taxable.