Social Security Administration

§ 422.103 Social security numbers.

(a) General. The Social Security Administration (SSA) maintains a record of the earnings reported for each individual assigned a social security number. The individual’s name and social security number identify the record so that the wages or self-employment income reported for or by the individual can be properly posted to the individual's record. Additional procedures concerning social security numbers may be found in Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury regulation 26 CFR 31.6011(b)-2.

(b) Applying for a number—(1) Form SS-5. An individual needing a social security number may apply for one by filing a signed form SS-5, “Application for A Social Security Number Card,” at any social security office and submitting the required evidence. Upon request, the social security office may distribute a quantity of form SS-5 applications to labor unions, employers, or other representative organizations. An individual outside the United States may apply for a social security number card at the Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office, Manila, Philippines, at any U.S. foreign service post, or at a U.S. military post outside the United States. (See §422.106 for special procedures for filing applications with other government agencies.) Additionally, a U.S. resident may apply for a social security number for a non-resident dependent when the number is necessary for U.S. tax purposes or some other valid reason, the evidence requirements of §422.107 are met, and we determine that a personal interview with the dependent is not required. Form SS-5 may be obtained at:

(i) Any local social security office;
(ii) The Social Security Administration, 300 N. Greene Street, Baltimore, MD 21201;
(iii) Offices of District Directors of Internal Revenue;

Subpart B—General Procedures


§ 422.101 Material included in this subpart.

This subpart describes the procedures relating to applications for and assignment of social security numbers, maintenance of earnings records of individuals by the Social Security Administration, requests for statements of earnings or for revision of earnings records, and general claims procedures, including filing of applications, submission of evidence, determinations, and reconsideration of initial determinations.