

How Much will you get from Social Security?

Social Security is a federal government program that provides a source of income for you or your legal dependents (spouse, children, or parents), if you qualify for benefits. Your Social Security benefits are designed to supplement your retirement savings.

How do Social Security benefits work?

Social Security retirement benefits are not based on need but rather on income earned during your earning life. While you work, you pay Social Security taxes. This tax money goes into a trust fund that pays benefits to those who are currently retired, to people with disabilities, and to the surviving spouses and children of employees who have died.

How much could I receive in Social Security benefits?

Based on the Social Security Administration's (SSA's) calculations, the amount of Social Security you receive depends on your earnings over your *lifetime* (*an employee born after 1928 must have accumulated at least 40 quarters of work*). The age at which you begin receiving benefits is also a factor. (*Full retirement age is the age which a person may first become entitled to full or unreduced retirement benefits.*) Please visit the Social Security Administration website (ssa.gov) by clicking [here](#) to create an account for yourself to see what benefits you may be eligible to receive.

Will my Social Security be enough?

Begin to estimate all potential sources of retirement income and develop a plan. Estimate what your future living expenses will be to determine how much income you will need each month. Remember, your San Mateo County 457 Deferred Compensation Plan account at Empower can help you save today for a more secure financial future tomorrow. To learn more about the Deferred Compensation Plan, check out empower.com/sanmateocounty.