

How to Qualify for Social Security Disability Benefits With Cervical Cancer

If you have received a diagnosis of cervical cancer, you may qualify for disability benefits administered through the Social Security Administration (SSA). The diagnosis itself is not enough to get your claim approved, but with the right documentation and supporting evidence, you can receive benefits. The second most common cancer affecting women around the world, more than 13,000 women throughout the U.S. had cervical cancer in 2018.

Meeting the Medical Criteria for Disability Benefits

The SSA uses a medical guide, which is called the Blue Book, to determine if a claimant qualifies for disability benefits. The Blue Book listing for cervical cancer can be found under [section 13.23](#). To qualify through the listing, you must provide documentation showing that your cervical cancer has extended outside the cervix, such as to the vagina, pelvic wall, or organs, or it must be persistent and has recurred despite you undergoing chemotherapy treatment. If your cervical cancer does not meet those criteria, your claim will not be approved per the listing, but you may still be able to get your claim approved.

You will need to provide detailed [medical evidence](#), which includes the diagnosis, physician notes, imaging reports, lab records, surgical notes – if applicable, treatment plan, and any other documentation that shows the severity of your condition and how it affects your daily life as well as your ability to work.

Using an RFC To Qualify for Disability Benefits

If you are unable to work because of cervical cancer, but your condition does not meet the criteria of the Blue Book listing, you may still be approved for disability benefits using a medical vocational allowance. A [residual functional capacity](#) (RFC) form can be used to improve your chances of having your claim approved. You can have your treating physician complete the RFC for you, detailing what you can and cannot do. Disability Determination Services (DDS) may have an adjudicator complete the form based on your medical records and supporting documentation.

The RFC completed by the adjudicator will identify which of the five exertional levels you would be included on. The lowest level is sedentary then there is light, medium, heavy, and very heavy work. These levels are based on the movements you are capable of performing for extended timeframes. The medical vocational allowance takes your age, work history, transferrable skills, educational background, medical condition, and other factors into consideration.

Applying For Disability Benefits

If you are unable to work because of cervical cancer, you will need to gather all the supporting documentation that you can. You should prepare a detailed list of your medical providers and

include contact details as well as dates of service. You can [start the claims process online](#) at or by calling 1-800-772-1213 and speaking with a representative. You can also apply in person at an [SSA office](#) if you need additional assistance. You will need to make sure the claim forms are completed in detail and that you have documentation to support your claim.

Resources:

<https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/13.00-NeoplasticDiseases-Malignant-Adult.htm> - 13_23

<https://www.disabilitybenefitscenter.org/glossary/acceptable-medical-source>

<https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms/images/SSA4/G-SSA-4734-U8-1.pdf>

<https://www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability/>

<https://www.disabilitybenefitscenter.org/state-social-security-disability>