

## I am an advocate / attorney / representative. Can I file an application for benefits for someone else on their behalf?

### Question

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### Answer

You may complete an online application for benefits on someone's behalf at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

If you are completing the application information **with** the individual applying for benefits, then click on the button on the first page of the Internet application that reads, "I am helping someone who wants to apply for benefits and is with me." When the application is complete, the claimant **must** sign the application electronically by clicking the SIGN NOW button at the end of the application. You are not allowed to sign an application on behalf of an individual.

If you are completing an online application **on behalf of** an individual who is not with you, then click on the button that reads, "I am helping someone who is not with me, and therefore cannot sign the application at this time." When the application is complete, click the FINISH button at the end of the application. A paper application will be mailed to the individual for him or her to review, sign, and return to the Social Security Administration.