

Answer ID

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04/06/2000 12:46 PM

Last Updated

10/17/2007 06:15 AM

What is the maximum Social Security retirement benefit?**Question**

What is the maximum Social Security retirement benefit?

Answer

The maximum benefit depends on the age at which a worker chooses to retire. The amount for 2008 for a person retiring at full retirement age (65 years and 10 months) is \$2,185. This is based on earnings at the maximum taxable amount for every year after age 21. You can see the maximum amount of taxable earnings for each year at [Contribution and Benefit Base](#).

If a husband and wife retire, each receives his or her own benefit amount. Social Security imposes no "marriage penalty" when two members of a couple are each entitled on their own earnings record. You can [file for retirement benefits online](#).