



ALERT

JANUARY 2022

Guard Your Social Security Card

Guard Your Social Security Card—

The Social Security Administration (SSA) encourages you not to carry your Social Security card with you every day. The best way to “Guard Your Card” is to keep it in a safe place and share it only when required, which is rare. In fact, in most cases, just knowing the Social Security (SS) number should be enough. Also, you shouldn’t carry any documents that display your number.

What You Should Know:

- Someone asks for your SS number:

Please be careful about sharing your number when asked for it.

You should always ask why your number is needed, how it will be used, and what will happen if you refuse.

- You have lost or misplaced your Social Security Card and need a replacement card:

Create or use your **my Social Security** account to request a replacement:

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

This is a free and secure account that provides personalized tools for everyone, whether you receive benefits or not. Take away the risk of someone else trying to create one in your name, even if they obtain your SS number.

or go to the SSA website to request a replacement:

<https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/replacement-card.html>

How You Can Protect Your SS Number and Keep Your Information Safe:

- ◆ Do not carry your card or other documents that display your SS number with you.
- ◆ If you know your SS number has been compromised, request to Block Electronic Access by calling 1-800-772-1213. Once requested, any automated phone or electronic access to your SS record is blocked. No one, including you, will be able to see or change your personal information on the internet or through SSA’s automated telephone service. If you change your mind and want to unblock access, contact SSA and ask to have it removed—you will need to prove our identity when calling.
- ◆ Ways to contact SSA:
 - Online: www.ssa.gov;
 - Use your **my Social Security** account; or
 - Call 1-800-772-1213.

REPORT all scams to the Arkansas SMP — 866-726-



The Arkansas SMP (Senior Medicare Patrol) is a grant program administered by the Department of Human Services Division of Aging, Adult & Behavioral Health Services. This publication was paid for by a grant from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) #90MPP3001. Points expressed herein do not necessarily reflect official ACL policy.