

system tailored specifically for SSA's disability programs and adjudicative needs. Advice and recommendations will relate to SSA's disability programs in the following areas: Medical and vocational analysis of disability claims; occupational analysis, including definitions, ratings and capture of physical and mental/cognitive demands of work and other occupational information critical to SSA disability programs; data collection; use of occupational information in SSA's disability programs; and any other area(s) that would enable SSA to develop an occupational information system suited to its disability programs and improve the medical-vocational adjudication policies and processes.

**Agenda:** The Panel will meet on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, from 1 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. (CST); Thursday, January 21, 2010, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. (CST) and Friday, January 22, 2010, from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. (CST). The agenda will be available on the Internet at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/oidap/> one week prior to the meeting.

The tentative agenda for this meeting includes: Presentations from invited stakeholder organizations for the purpose of receiving feedback on the Panel's recommendations identified in the report entitled *Content Model and Classification Recommendations for the Social Security Administration Occupational Information System (September 2009)* and related issues of concern in areas where additional or new occupational information is needed; an overview of the project work plan and the Panel's focus for FY2010; discussion of user feedback; review of the panel structure; subcommittee chair reports; receive a presentation summarizing the user needs analysis final report findings and hold an administrative business meeting.

The Panel will hear public comment during the January Quarterly Meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (CST) and Thursday, January 21, 2010 from 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. (CST). Members of the public must schedule a time slot—assigned on a first come, first served basis—in order to comment. In the event public comment does not take the entire time allotted, the Panel may use any remaining time to deliberate or conduct other Panel business.

Persons interested in providing testimony in person at the meeting or via teleconference should contact the Panel staff by e-mail to [OIDAP@ssa.gov](mailto:OIDAP@ssa.gov). Individuals are limited to a maximum five-minute verbal presentation. Organizational representatives will be

allotted a maximum ten-minute verbal presentation. Written testimony, no longer than five (5) pages, may be submitted at any time either in person, or by mail, fax or e-mail to [OIDAP@ssa.gov](mailto:OIDAP@ssa.gov) for Panel consideration.

Persons interested in providing feedback on the Panel report entitled *Content Model and Classification Recommendations for the Social Security Administration Occupational Information System (September 2009)* may do so no later than February 15, 2010, by mail, fax or e-mail to the staff. Please include your complete contact information (full name, mailing and e-mail address) with the submission.

Seating is limited. Individuals who need special accommodation in order to attend or participate in the meeting (e.g., sign language interpretation, assistive listening devices, or materials in alternative formats, such as large print or CD) should notify Debra Tidwell-Peters via e-mail to [debra.tidwell-peters@ssa.gov](mailto:debra.tidwell-peters@ssa.gov) or by telephone at 410-965-9617, no later than January 15, 2010. SSA will attempt to meet requests made but cannot guarantee availability of services. All meeting locations are barrier free.

If you want to access the meeting by teleconference, please send your name and contact information to [OIDAP@ssa.gov](mailto:OIDAP@ssa.gov) one week prior to the start date of the meeting.

**Contact Information:** Records of all public Panel proceedings are maintained and available for inspection. Anyone requiring further information should contact the Panel staff at: Occupational Information Development Advisory Panel, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, 3-E-26 Operations, Baltimore, MD 21235-0001. Telephone: 410-965-9617. Fax: 202-410-597-0825. E-mail to [OIDAP@ssa.gov](mailto:OIDAP@ssa.gov). For additional information, please visit the Panel Web site at <http://www.ssa.gov/oidap>.

Dated: December 22, 2009.

**Debra Tidwell-Peters,**

*Designated Federal Officer, Occupational Information Development Advisory Panel.*

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## **SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

**[Docket No. SSA-2009-0090]**

### **Rate for Assessment on Direct Payment Fees to Representatives in 2010**

**AGENCY:** Social Security Administration (SSA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are announcing that the assessment percentage rate under sections 206(d) and 1631(d)(2)(C) of the Social Security Act (Act), 42 U.S.C. 406 (d), and 1383(d)(2)(C), is 6.3 percent for 2010.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Gwen Jones Kelley, Associate General Counsel for Program Law, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401. Phone: (410) 965-0495, e-mail [Gwen.Jones.Kelley@ssa.gov](mailto:Gwen.Jones.Kelley@ssa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 406 of Public Law No. 106-170, the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, established an assessment for the services required to determine and certify payments to attorneys from the benefits due claimants under Title II of the Act. This provision is codified in section 206 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 406). That legislation set the assessment for the calendar year 2000 at 6.3 percent of the amount that would be required to be certified for direct payment to the attorney under sections 206(a)(4) or 206(b)(1) of the Act before the application of the assessment. For subsequent years, the legislation requires us to determine the percentage rate necessary to achieve full recovery of the costs of determining and certifying fees to attorneys, but not in excess of 6.3 percent. Beginning in 2005, sections 302 and 303 of Public Law No. 108-203, the Social Security Protection Act of 2004 (SSPA), extended the direct payment of fees to attorneys in cases under Title XVI of the Act and to eligible non-attorney representatives in cases under Title II or Title XVI of the Act. Fees directly paid under these provisions are subject to the same assessment. In addition, sections 301 and 302 of the SSPA imposed a dollar cap (i.e., currently \$83) on the amount of the assessment so that the assessment may not exceed the lesser of that dollar cap or the amount determined using the assessment percentage rate.

Based on the best available data, we have determined that the current rate of 6.3 percent will continue for 2010. We will continue to review our costs for these services on a yearly basis.

Dated: December 18, 2009.

**Michael G. Gallagher,**

*Deputy Commissioner for Budget, Finance and Management.*

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