

Social Security Column

SPANISH IS OUR SECOND LANGUAGE

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During National Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15 to October 15, Social Security offices across the country will join in recognizing the many contributions of Hispanic Americans to the United States, and in celebrating Hispanic heritage and culture.

Our website is recognized as being at the forefront for providing information and services in Spanish. Find out why by visiting www.segurosocial.gov. The popular Spanish-language website offers a vast amount of information that is useful to people whose first language is Spanish.

The www.segurosocial.gov website features more than 100 Spanish public information pamphlets, leaflets, and fact sheets. The website also lets visitors use benefit calculators, sign-up for direct deposit, and locate their nearest Social Security office.

But one of the best features of the site is the new Spanish-language *Retirement Estimator* located at www.segurosocial.gov/calculador. The *Retirement Estimator* allows visitors to receive an instant, personalized estimate of future retirement benefits. And what's better, visitors can try out different scenarios to see how they would change future benefits, like changing future wage estimates or retirement dates. It's a great tool for planning for the future.

If you want to visit an office and speak with someone in Spanish, we do have interpreter services available in the event that there is not a Spanish-speaking representative working in the office. To learn about our interpreter services, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/espanol/interpreter.htm.

In addition, our national toll-free number (1-800-772-1213) provides automated prompts in Spanish for all callers. Toward the beginning of the call, you will be asked to continue in English or Spanish; it's as easy as that to get service in the language you're most comfortable with.

So whether it is via the Internet, through face-to-face office visits, or over our national 800 number, Social Security remains committed to providing quality service to an increasingly more diverse American public.

This National Hispanic Heritage Month, visit www.segurosocial.gov to learn about Social Security in Spanish.

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