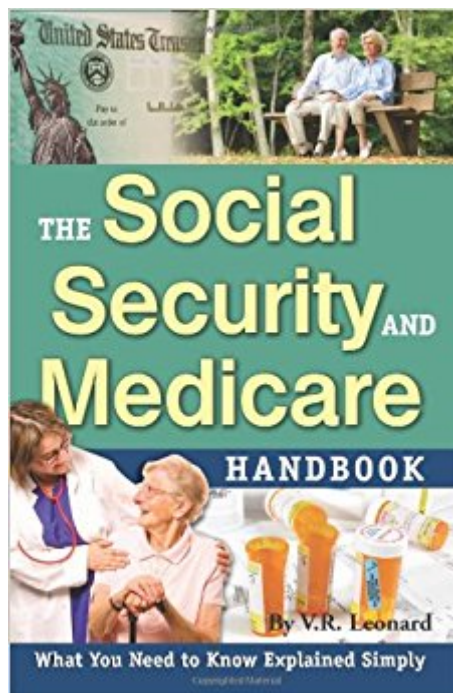




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The Social Security And Medicare Handbook: What You Need To Know Explained Simply



Synopsis

The Social Security and Medicare Handbook includes the provisions of the Social Security Act, regulations issued under the Act, and recent case decisions (rulings). It is a readable, easy to understand resource for the extremely complex Social Security and Medicare programs and services. Here in this new, groundbreaking, and exhaustively researched book you will learn an overview of the Social Security and Medicare system, how Social Security benefits are currently computed, how to become insured, and how to file a claim. You also will learn about retirement and auxiliary benefits, survivor benefits, disability benefits and protection, evaluating disability, cash benefit rates, employees, employer responsibilities, special coverage provisions, state and local employment, earnings records and tax reports, the administrative review process, supplemental income, other benefit programs, hospital insurance (Part A), medical insurance (Part B), Medicare Advantage plans (Part C), prescription drug coverage (Part D), prescription programs, and special veteran benefits. This book will explain how current Social Security benefits are computed and provide insight into your Social Security benefits. Atlantic Publishing is a small, independent publishing company based in Ocala, Florida. Founded over twenty years ago in the company president's garage, Atlantic Publishing has grown to become a renowned resource for non-fiction books. Today, over 450 titles are in print covering subjects such as small business, healthy living, management, finance, careers, and real estate. Atlantic Publishing prides itself on producing award winning, high-quality manuals that give readers up-to-date, pertinent information, real-world examples, and case studies with expert advice. Every book has resources, contact information, and web sites of the products or companies discussed. This Atlantic Publishing eBook was professionally written, edited, fact checked, proofed and designed. The print version of this book is 288 pages and you receive exactly the same content. Over the years our books have won dozens of book awards for content, cover design and interior design including the prestigious Benjamin Franklin award for excellence in publishing. We are proud of the high quality of our books and hope you will enjoy this eBook version.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Atlantic Publishing Company; 1 edition (January 12, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1601381328

ISBN-13: 978-1601381323

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #770,565 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in Â Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Administration & Policy > Medicaid & Medicare #34 in Â Books > Law > Family Law > Elder Law #90 in Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Social Security

Customer Reviews

Picture it: you've worked hard throughout your life and you're on the cusp of retirement. You have no known health issues, but you are certain they are on the horizon for one reason or another. Say your only retirement plans are to collect Social Security benefits and use Medicare to supplement your health insurance plan. What's the problem? Many of us have absolutely no idea what any of this means or how about obtaining information about the process involved with receiving these benefits. V.R. Leonard has written an informative, yet easy to understand book entitled, *The Complete Guide to Becoming a Successful Mortgage Broker: Inside Secrets You Need to Know*. Within the pages of this publication, readers can learn about: Â Â The history of Social Security, and exactly what it is. Â Â The different programs associated with Social Security benefits, and how people qualify for them. Â Â How to apply for Social Security benefits. Â Â Explanations about Medicare benefits. Â Â What to do if you're denied for either Social Security or Medicare. There are several things I really liked about this book. Number one was the fact that it was set up in an easy format of "what is this," and "what do I do when" type questions and answers. Number two was the summaries at the end of each chapter. This allowed me to peruse quickly through subjects that were of interest, and find others that I didn't realize were part of the process. And, number three, learning insights from professionals is always a benefit for me no matter what subject I'm reading about and I found it particularly useful in this case.

This book is padded with a lot of history which is not very relevant to today's questions which belies its title inclusion, "explained simply".

I was delighted and full of dread at the first page. Talk about "grab your reader by the neck and don't let go"! And big print, clear sub-titles--I thought I'd scored. Until I read a chapter. And then read it again. And again. Paragraph after paragraph, I rewrote the sentences, trying to make consistent

sense of it all. After an hour, I threw the book across the room, wondered why Mr. Leonard hadn't the good sense to hire a decent editor, and picked up my thankfully boring, usually consistent and clear "Social Security, Medicare & Government Pensions" from NOLO.

The hard reality in the world of government benefits is that representatives from Social Security and Medicare don't really care about you. V.R. Leonard, author of "The Social Security and Medicare Handbook: What You Need To Know, Explained Simply" and a mother of two disabled children explains what government benefits are right for you, depending on your situation, and how to skirt common problems associated with applying for benefits and communicating with representatives. As a former reporter, Leonard dives into the uncertain realm of government benefits to outline all of the health care and assistance programs you need to get back on your feet after a disability or upon reaching old age. As outlined in her book, the particulars of government programs are a labyrinth of procedures and paperwork. Those who have been hired to assist you on your way are not obligated to answer your questions or help you gather information. They may even hang up the phone on you if they don't like your attitude. Leonard's book gives you all of the useful information, from the programs that are out there, to how much money you can receive, to the qualifications of each program. While it is a lot to absorb, in the long run, you can have a working relationship with financial assistance representatives without getting frustrated, and earn benefits that can help you receive health care and government assistance. Leonard also adds her voice to the ongoing debate about private versus public health care. She states that there are pros and cons of both, and that one may be better than the other depending on your needs. The book includes useful contact information and a glossary of terms that will allow you to wade through the pool of jargon and paperwork with ease. The key, according to Leonard, is to provide full, complete and honest information to representatives and keep a positive attitude.

This book has about as much information on its subject matter as a short magazine article. It was short on detail and specifics relative to Medicare. I would not recommend this book if you needed more than introductory information on medicare.

If you find yourself in the position of needing help winding your way through the maze of paperwork and inertia that can be our governmental services, specifically in regards to Social Security, then this book will be an invaluable resource for you. It will prepare you with an insider's knowledge on how to untangle bureaucratic red tape, and the necessary fortitude to face steep challenges in order

to access your benefits. The book acts as an advocate for your rights and your interests in the face of the sometimes harsh and cold government caseworker, and provides a concise history of the roots of Social Security in human society as a backdrop to an in-depth understanding of the program, its benefits, and how they are meant to work for you. While the material can be sometimes technical, the book provides a succinct summary at the end of each chapter. Every aspect of Social Security is covered including retirement, unemployment, disability and survivorship, Medicare, and how to proceed when denied. Also included is the actual Social Security Act in its entirety, which serves as an excellent form of reference as well as a concrete foundation upon which to stand when applying for your benefits. The book also discusses the current history and the specter of privatization of the Social Security system. At the end of the book you will find a wealth of alternative resources and assistance programs for people in need. Armed with the information in this book, you will be ready to face the cold unfeeling face of bureaucracy

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