



Congressional Research Service

Assisting the Congress with its deliberations and legislative decisions

Social Security Disability Programs: SSDI and SSI

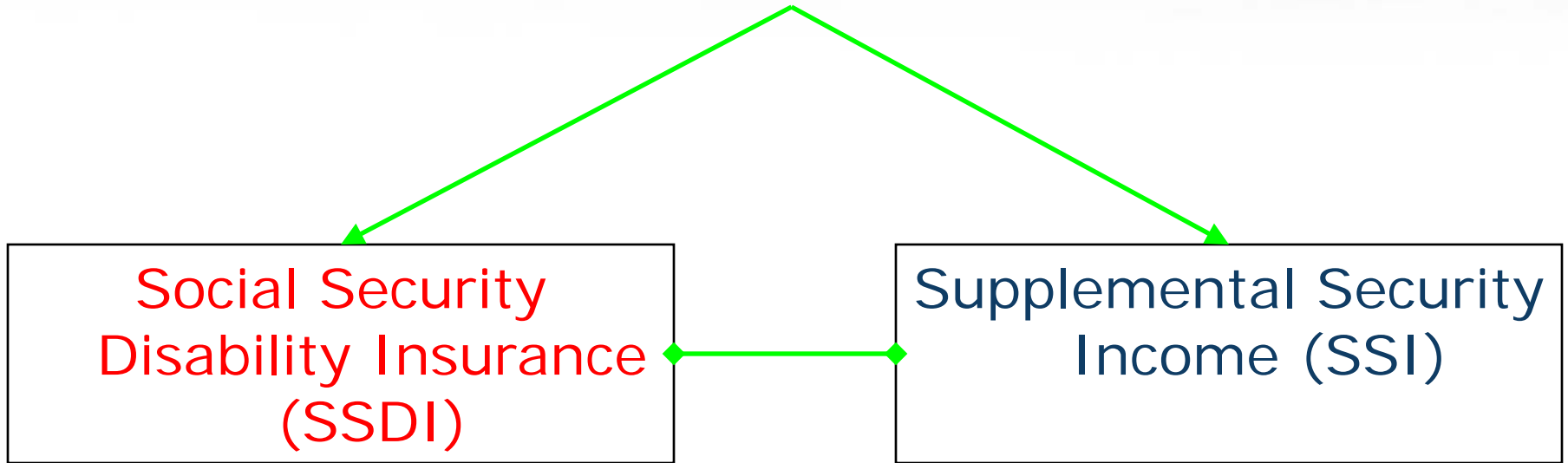
Overview and Current Issues

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Congressional Research Service

July 22, 2010

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY



SSDI

Insured

Working Age and
Dependents

Medicare

DI Trust Fund

SSI

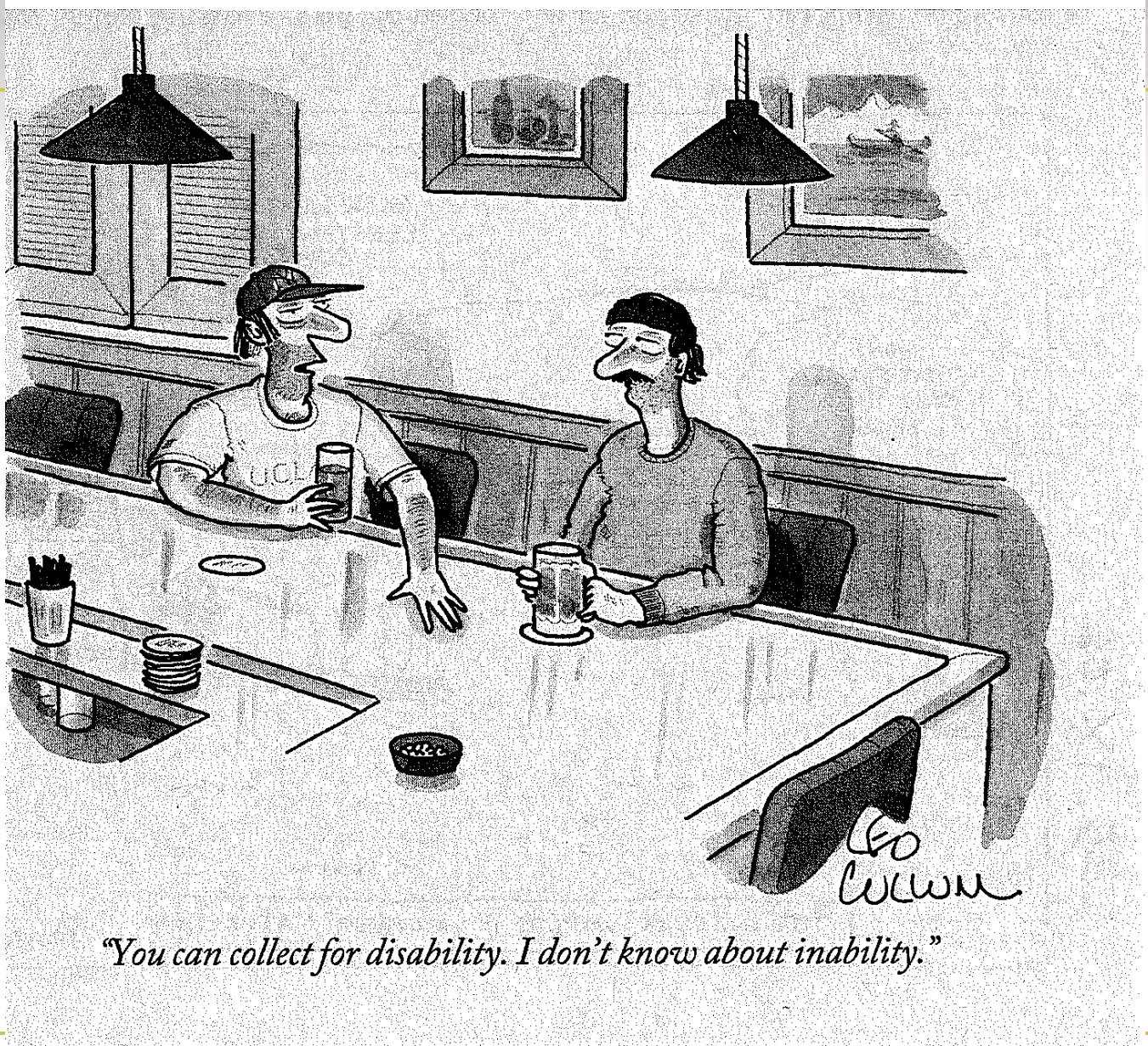
Means-Tested

Individual Children,
Adults, Seniors

Medicaid

General Revenue





"You can collect for disability. I don't know about inability."



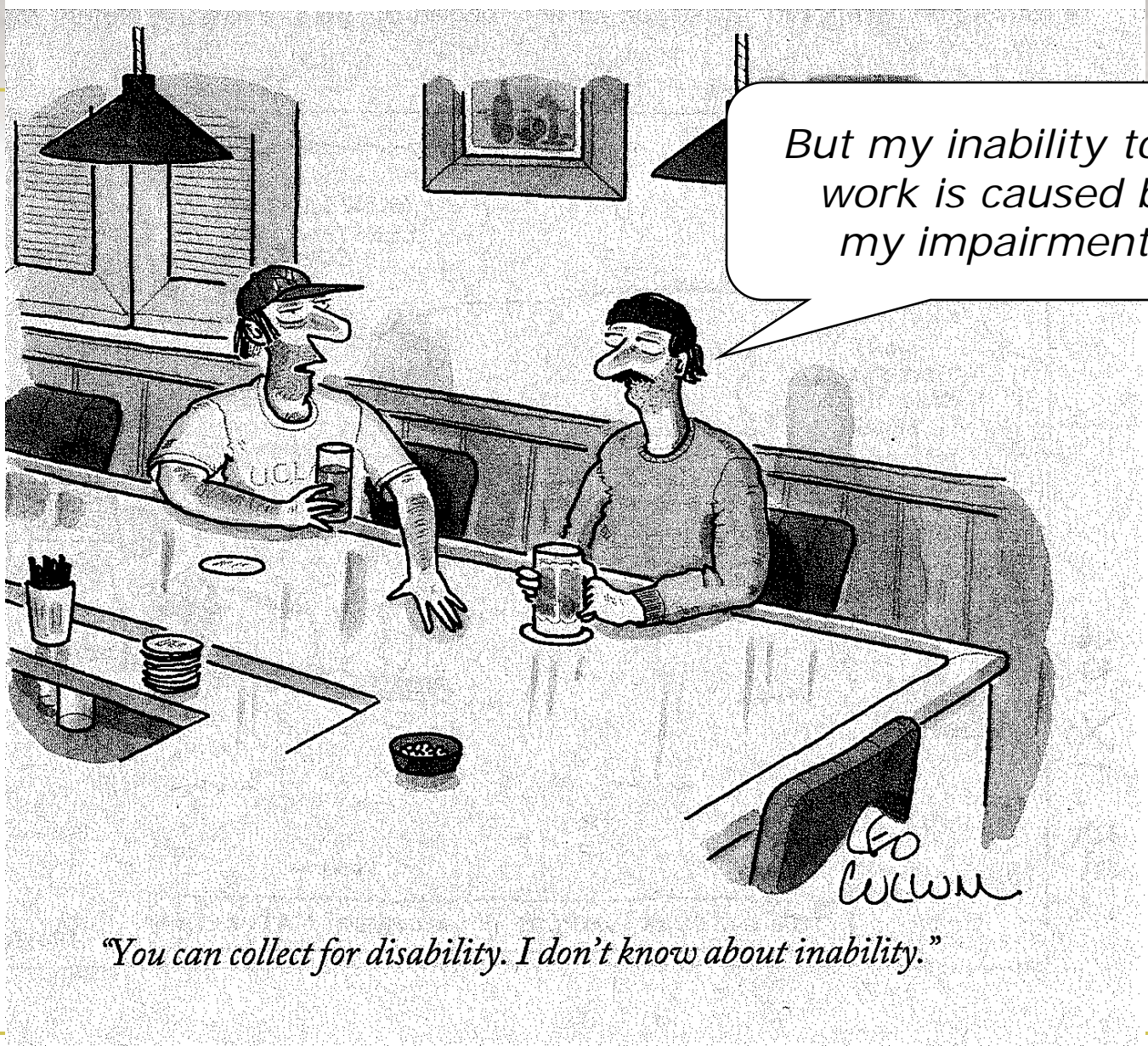
Definition of Disability

Impairment

CAUSES

Inability to work





"You can collect for disability. I don't know about inability."



Primary Impairments – 2008 Awards

SSDI Workers

Musculoskeletal
30%

Mental Disorders
23%

Circulatory Sys.
11%

All Others
36%

SSI Adults

Mental Disorders
36%

Musculoskeletal
20%

Circulatory Sys.
9%

All Others
35%

SSI Children

Mental Disorders
64%

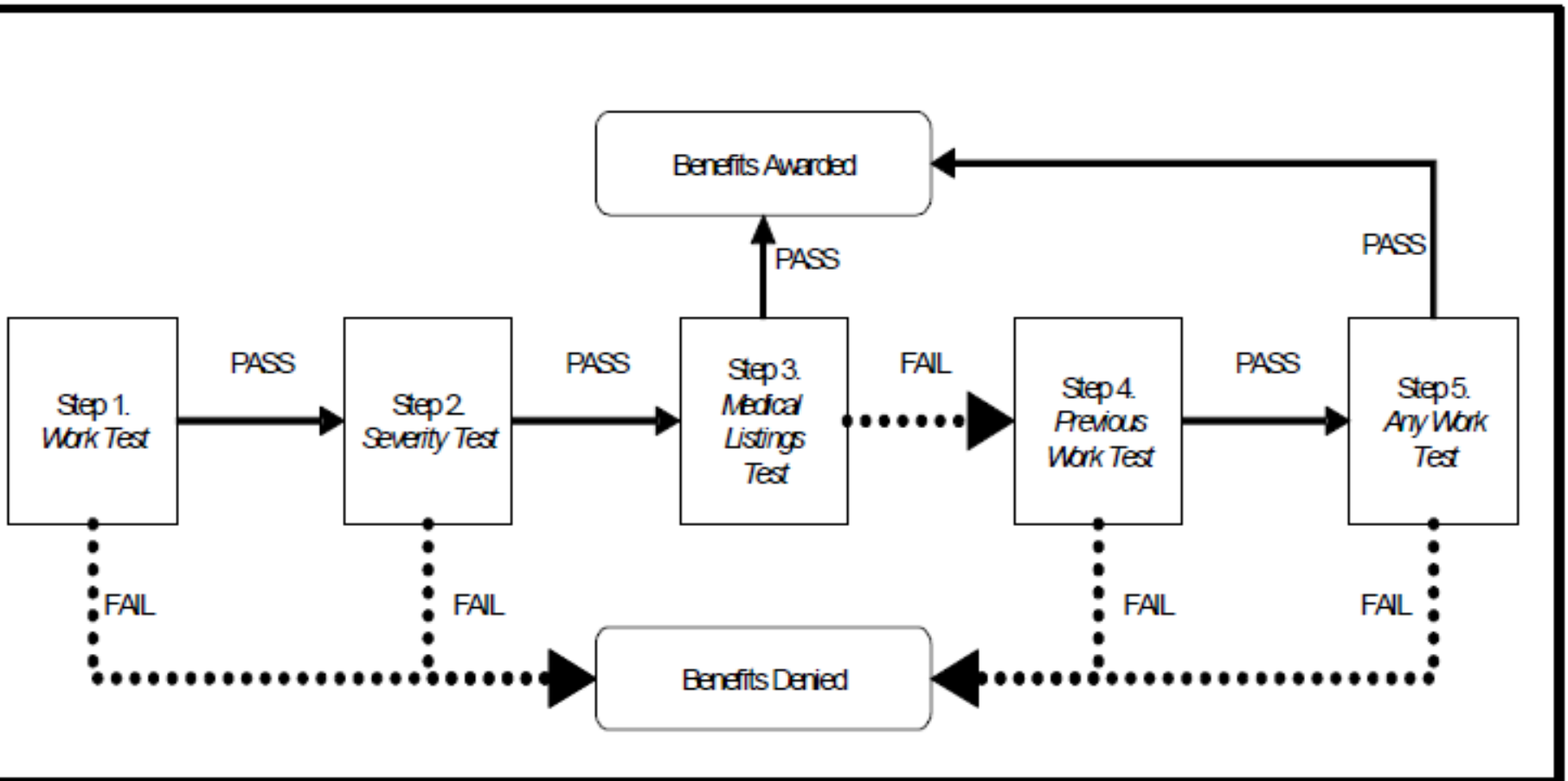
Musculoskeletal
<1%

Circulatory Sys.
<1%

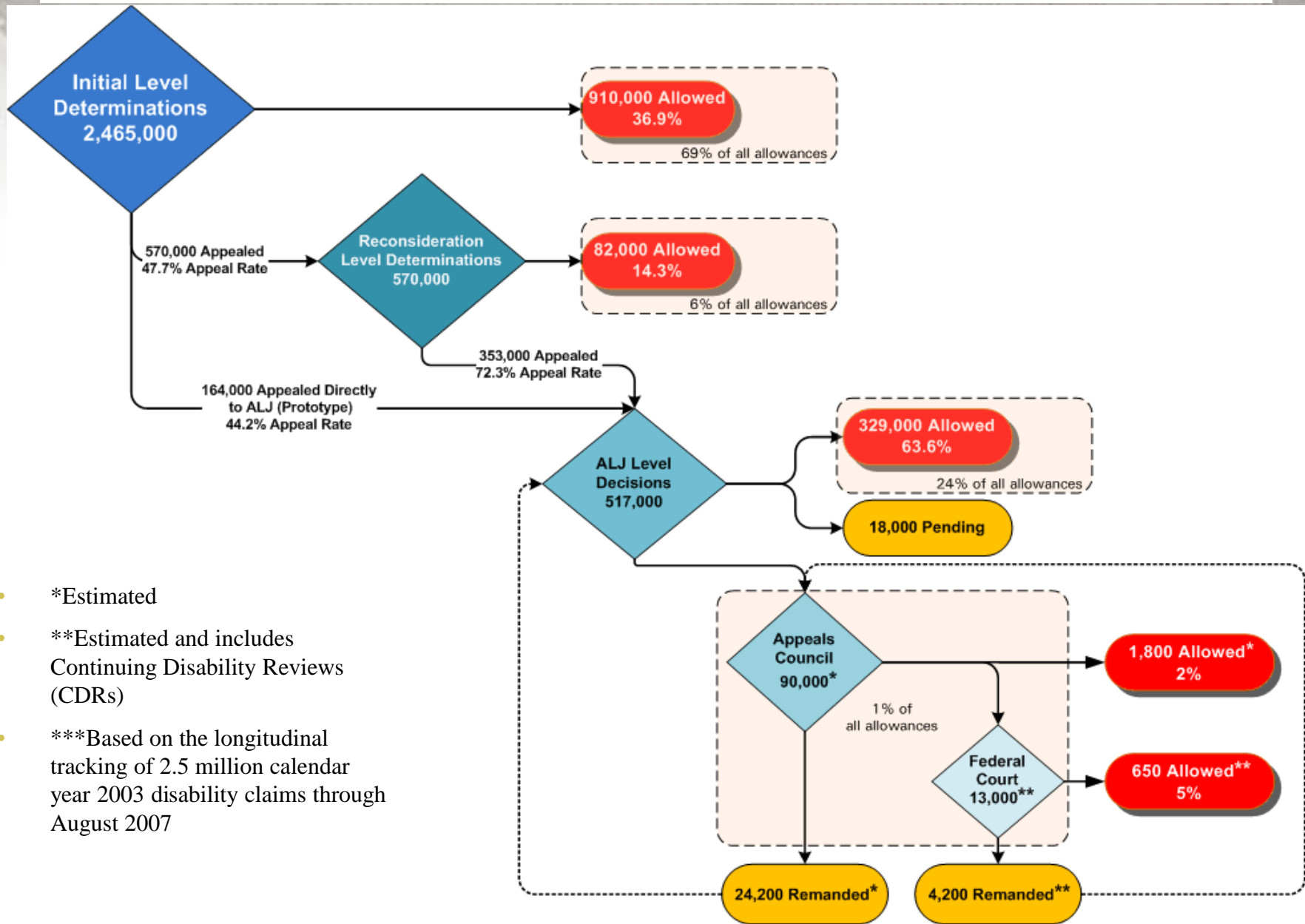
All Others
35%



Evaluation of Disability



Disability Determination and Appeals Process



- *Estimated
- **Estimated and includes Continuing Disability Reviews (CDRs)
- ***Based on the longitudinal tracking of 2.5 million calendar year 2003 disability claims through August 2007



Benefit Formulas

*Average Monthly
Benefit:
May 2010*

SSDI

Based on covered earnings
No reduction for income
Cash cliff

\$1,065.10
(Disabled Workers)

SSI

Federal Benefit Rate +
State Supplement –
Countable Income

\$498.60



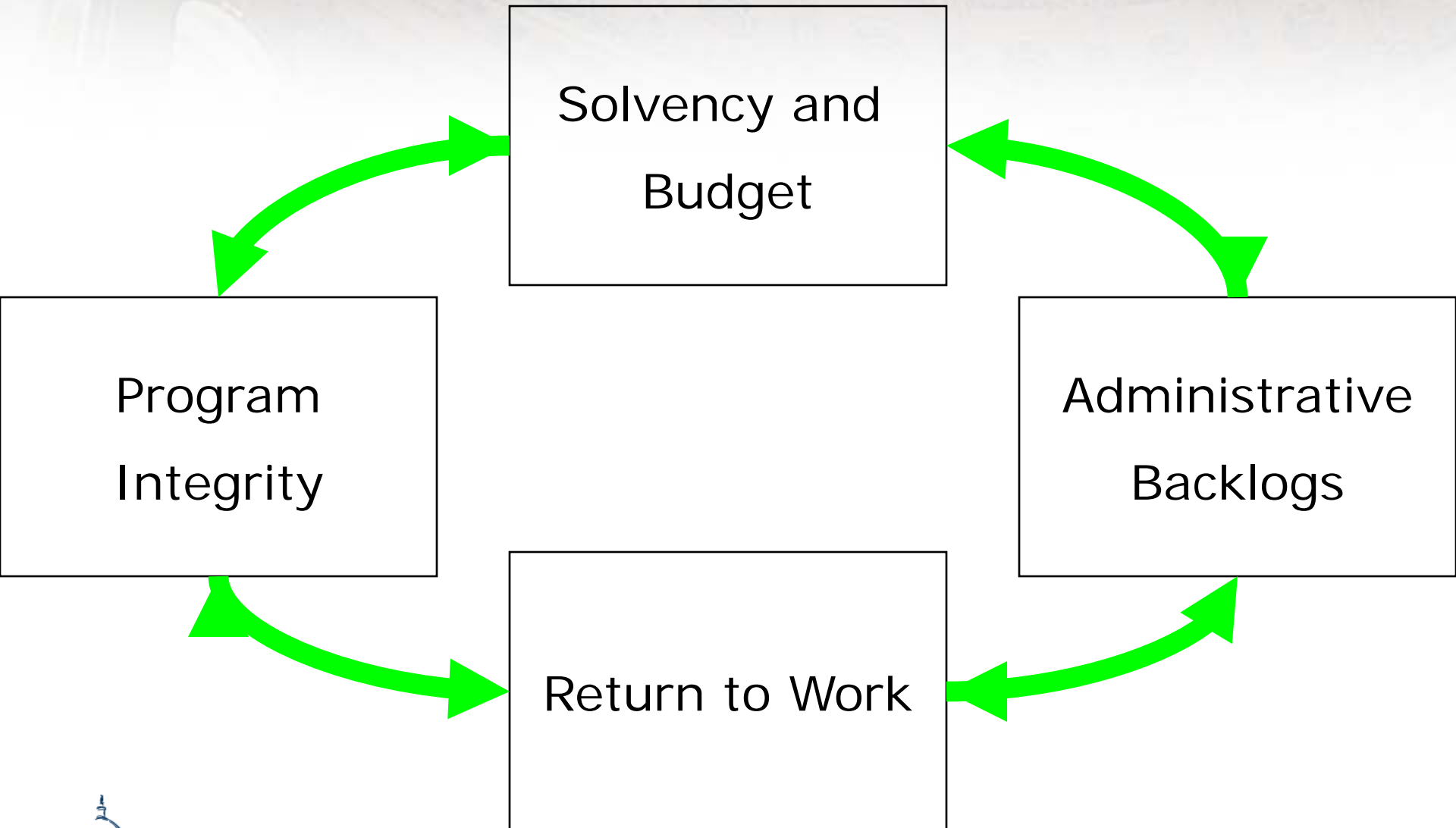
Program Data: May 2010

Program	Beneficiaries (thousands)	Total Monthly Payments (millions of \$)	Average Monthly Payment (\$)
SSDI	10,094	9,113	902.81
Disabled Workers	7,967	8,486	1,065.10
Spouses	160	46	286.00
Children	1,967	581	318.80
SSI	7,800	4,205	498.60
Under 18	1,222	769	596.90
18-64	4,542	2,610	514.80
65 and older	2,036	825	403.60

Source: SSA; Monthly Statistical Snapshot, May 2010.



Issues Facing the SSDI and SSI Programs



For additional information

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