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*So You Succeed Tomorrow*



# Employment Support: That's The Ticket!

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## Presenters

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## Agenda

- The Ticket to Work Program
- Debunking the Three Biggest Myths about Disability Benefits and Work
- Success Story
- Becoming an Employment Network
- Questions and Answers

# Social Security's Ticket To Work (Ticket) Program



# Ticket to Work Program

- Supports career development for people with disabilities who want to work
- Is for Social Security disability beneficiaries ages 18 through 64
- Is free and voluntary





# Social Security Disability Benefit Programs

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Social  
Security  
Disability  
Insurance

# Social Security Disability Benefit Programs



Supplemental  
Security  
Income



# Social Security Disability Benefit Programs



Social  
Security  
Disability  
Insurance



Supplemental  
Security  
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## Debunking the Three Biggest Myths about Disability Benefits and Work



**If I try to go to work, I will automatically lose my Medicare or Medicaid.**

## The answer is FALSE!



As long as you keep receiving a Social Security benefit check of **any amount**, you will keep your Medicare or Medicaid and may be able to keep it once your cash benefits stop.



## The answer is FALSE!



If you earn enough that your Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) checks stop, Medicare can continue for up to 93 months.



## The answer is FALSE!



If you currently receive Medicaid, you may be eligible to continue to receive Medicaid even after you stop receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits due to work.



## The answer is FALSE!



To be eligible, you need to meet certain requirements. These include earnings below a threshold amount set by your state. Even if your earnings are more than the state threshold, you may still be eligible and should talk to your state Medicaid office.





**If I use my Ticket to go to work, Social Security will conduct a medical review of my case, and I will lose my benefits.**



## The answer is FALSE!



If you participate in the Ticket program with either an Employment Network (EN) or your State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency and make **timely progress** following your individual work plan, Social Security **will postpone your medical continuing disability review (CDR).**



If my checks stop because I go to work and then I have to stop working because of my disability, I will have to reapply for Social Security benefits all over again. It took me forever to be approved for benefits and I cannot afford to wait that long again. As a result, I should not try to work.

## The answer is FALSE!



You will **not** need to reapply if your benefits ended within the past 5 years due to your earnings and you meet a few other Social Security requirements.

This Work Incentive is called **Expedited Reinstatement (EXR)**.

## What is Expedited Reinstatement?

EXR is a Work Incentive that applies to both **SSDI** and **SSI** beneficiaries.

- EXR offers a **fast track to benefits reinstatement** if you worked your way off benefits and make the reinstatement request within 5 years after your benefits stopped.



## Taking the Next Step

- Gathering information and resources is key to planning your journey toward employment.
- Ticket to Work and Work Incentives can help make your journey a smooth one.



# Success Story



## Meet Lori!

At 38, Lori has come a long way from the little girl who was paralyzed with fear — a little girl who couldn't get out of bed to go to school, make it through a whole week of summer camp, or see friends and family without spiraling into terrifying anxiety, panic attacks and depression.



## Meet Lori!

Her service provider with the Ticket program helped her negotiate the ins and outs of managing her disability benefits while finding a job. This made Lori feel safe and like she could go back to work.



## Meet Lori!

In March 2011, Lori was hired by Employment Options, her Ticket provider. Lori began doing public relations, marketing and social media and she continues to work for them today as a Senior Marketing Liaison.

*“There probably will be frustrations and setbacks along the way. That’s okay. It’s how we learn how strong we are. Keep moving forward. The Ticket program is there to give us another chance and is a great support system.”*

To read Lori’s story:

[www.choosework.net/library/lori-success-story](http://www.choosework.net/library/lori-success-story)

## Employment and Recovery

Consider 4 major dimensions that support a life in recovery:

1. **Health** — overcoming or managing one's condition(s) or symptoms
2. **Home** — having a stable and safe place to live
3. **Purpose** — participating in meaningful daily activities, such as a job
4. **Community** — having relationships and social networks that provide support, friendship, love, and hope

## Deciding to Work

Deciding to work can be a big decision. One that requires:

1. Good information about and understanding of your Social Security Disability benefits
2. Support in securing and keeping a job

**The Ticket program can help you with both.**

## Starting the Journey

Only you can decide if work is  
the right choice for you.



## Why Choose Work?

- Gain independence
- Increase social circle
- Learn new skills
- Increase self-esteem





## Additional Resources

## Find Help Tool

Visit: [www.choosework.net/findhelp/](http://www.choosework.net/findhelp/) to search for the right service provider for you.

You can search by:

- ZIP code
- Services offered
- Disability types
- Languages spoken
- Provider type (EN, Workforce EN, State VR agency, Work Incentives Planning and Assistance or Protection and Advocacy)

## For More Information



### Call the Ticket to Work Help Line:

- 1-866-968-7842
- 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)

### Visit:

- [www.ssa.gov/work](http://www.ssa.gov/work)

### Connect:



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Follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/chooseworkssa](http://www.twitter.com/chooseworkssa)



Watch Ticket to Work Videos on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/choosework>



Follow us on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ticket-to-work>



# Becoming an Employment Network



## What is an Employment Network (EN)?

- An EN is an organization or group of organizations that has been deemed qualified to provide or coordinate the provision of vocational rehabilitation and other types of employment-related services and supports to assist Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities to enter, maintain and advance in employment.
- ENs can be for-profit and non-profit organizations and service providers, state and local government agencies, or a group of providers working together as a single EN.

## Benefits of Becoming an EN

- Ticket to Work is a program that can easily integrate into your existing business model
- Outcome-based program
  - Helps beneficiaries move off Social Security benefits and become more financially independent through work
  - Ticket payment revenue can be used at the EN's discretion

## Five Steps to Become an EN

1. Submit the EN Request for Quotation (RFQ) to Social Security Administration
2. Receive Suitability Determination
3. Create a mySSA Account with Extra Security
4. Complete and submit Security Awareness Contractor Personnel Security Certification.
5. Complete mandatory training after becoming an EN

## Contact Us:

Questions about RFQ Process

[ENOperations@yourtickettowork.com](mailto:ENOperations@yourtickettowork.com)

Download the RFQ at

[www.ssa.gov/work/enrfq.html](http://www.ssa.gov/work/enrfq.html)

# Questions

