

What is Ticket to Work?

Ticket to Work (Ticket) is a program administered by Social Security. It is a free, voluntary program for people who receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) because of a disability. The goal of the program is to help SSI and SSDI beneficiaries obtain and maintain employment and earn enough money that they will not need Social Security cash benefits.

The Ticket gives beneficiaries greater choice in receiving the services they need in order to go to work or earn more money because they can receive those services from either ORS or an Employment Network (EN). An EN is an organization that has agreed to work with Social Security to provide employment-related services to beneficiaries. SSI and SSDI beneficiaries between 18 and 64 are eligible to participate in the Ticket program.

For more information on
Ticket to Work, contact:

Ticket to Work **Help Line**

1-866-968-7842 Voice
1-866-833-2967 TTY
www.choosework.ssa.gov

Disability Rights **Rhode Island**

401-831-3150 Voice
401-831-5335 TTY
www.drri.org

Office of Rehabilitation **Services**

401-421-7005 Voice
401-421-7016 TTY
www.ors.state.ri.us



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Disability Rights

RHODE ISLAND

A Consumer's Quick Guide to

Ticket To Work

In Rhode Island

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www.drri.org

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Questions and Answers

Why am I getting this Ticket to Work (Ticket)?

The Social Security Administration sends the Ticket to eligible SSI and/or SSDI beneficiaries who are ages 18 through 64. It is an opportunity for you to receive services and support so that you can go to work if you want.

Why would I want the Ticket?

The Ticket provides you with options in employment services. The Ticket allows you to choose a provider, either ORS or, an Employment Network (EN), that best meets your needs and to receive employment-related services at no cost to you. In addition, Social Security will not schedule you for any medical continuing disability reviews (CDRs) while you are using the Ticket.

Do I have to use my Ticket?

No. Participation and use of the Ticket is *strictly voluntary*. Your Social Security benefits will not be affected if you choose not to use your Ticket.

How do I use my Ticket?

Take the Ticket to the SVRA or an EN, who will help you develop a plan to go to work and then provide you with the services you need to follow that plan. Not all ENs serve all consumers, so you will need to contact them to find out which ones can assist you.

What if I lose my Ticket or Never Received a Ticket?

You do not need a physical Ticket to use your Ticket. Staff at the Ticket to Work Help Line can determine if you are Ticket eligible and provide you with information about your Ticket status. The Ticket to Work Help Line is available at 1-866-968-7842 (or 1-866-833-2967 for TTY).

What is an EN?

An EN is an organization approved by Social Security to assist you in getting the services you need in order to obtain and maintain employment. You can also receive services from ORS without using your Ticket.

How can I find out more about the ENs that serve my area?

Call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7482 (or 1-866-833-2967 for TTY) or use the Find Help Tool at choosework.ssa.gov

Do I have to go to work in order to keep my Ticket?

You do not have to go to work to keep your Ticket. However, to keep your medical CDR protection, you must make timely progress toward reaching the employment goals that your EN will help you set.

If I go to work, will my benefits be affected?

Working and receiving any income may affect your benefits (i.e. SSI, SSDI, food stamps, medical assistance, housing). Programs such as Medicaid, Social Security work incentives, and income disallowances for housing assistance can help reduce or eliminate potential benefits problems. A Ticket to Work Customer Service Representative can provide you with general information about work incentives. If you are employed, self-employed or have a job offer or interview pending, contact the Work Incentive Planning and Assistance (WIPA) project serving RI. You can find the WIPA serving RI by contacting the Ticket to Work Help Line or accessing the Find Help Tool at choosework.ssa.gov

What if I have a complaint about an EN, service provider, or employer?

Depending on your complaint, Disability Rights Rhode Island can provide you with advice, advocacy, or legal representation.