

Disability Rights Nebraska

Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities

This is basic information and does not constitute legal advice.

Ticket to Work - Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Ticket to Work?

The Ticket to Work (Ticket) is a program of the Social Security Administration. It is a voluntary program for people who receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) 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 so 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 now receive those services from either Vocational Rehabilitation or an Employment Network (EN). An EN is a private organization or government agency that has agreed to work with Social Security to provide employment-related services to beneficiaries.

For more information on the Ticket to Work, contact the following agencies by telephone or by visiting their websites. If you do not have the internet at home, you can access it at your local library or One-Stop Center/Workforce Development Center (employment center offering training, education, job skills, and job opportunities). Their website, listed below, offers a wide range of information and resources for people with disabilities.

MAXIMUS

1-866-968-7842 Voice

1-866-833-2967 TTY

www.yourtickettowork.com

Social Security Administration

1-800-772-1213 Voice

1-800-325-0778 TTY

www.ssa.gov/work/Ticket/ticket.html

One Stop Center (called Workforce Development Centers in Nebraska)

1-866-487-2365

1-877-889-5627 TTY

www.dol.gov/odep

Why would I want the Ticket?

The Ticket provides you with options in employment services. Until this time, you were limited to the services provided by Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). The Ticket allows you to choose a provider, called 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?

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?

To use your Ticket, you will need to take it to VR 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.

How do I find an Employment Network?

You can call MAXIMUS for the names of Employment Networks in your area or you can visit their website.

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, housing). Programs such as Medicaid for Employed Adults with Disabilities, Social Security work incentives, and income disallowances for housing assistance can help reduce or eliminate potential benefits problems. You are strongly encouraged to contact a benefits planner who can help you learn how working may affect your benefits.

Where can I find a benefits planner?

In Nebraska, contact:

Easter Seals Nebraska

2727 West 2nd Street - Ste 471

Hastings, NE 68901-4608

Telephone: 402-462-3031 & 1-800-471-6425