

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the Ticket to Work program?

A. The Ticket to Work program is a new program from the Social Security Administration for people who receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits because of disability or blindness. The program offers you greater choice in getting the services you need to go to work or to earn more money. The goal of the program is to help you earn enough money so you will not need Social Security cash benefits.

Q. How will I get a Ticket to Work?

A. Tickets are mailed to those receiving cash benefits of SSI or SSDI who are between the ages of 18 and 64.

Q. Why would I want to use the Ticket?

A. A Ticket to Work provides you with options for employment services. The Ticket allows you to choose an Employment Network to receive individualized employment-related services. WorkNet Pinellas is an approved Employment Network offering employment services at no cost to you.

Q. What is an Employment Network?

A. An Employment Network (EN) is an organization or government agency approved by Social Security to assist you in getting the services you need to obtain and maintain employment.

Q. How do I use my Ticket?

A. To use your Ticket, contact WorkNet Pinellas and we'll help you develop an Individualized Work Plan. We will assist you with the services you need to follow that plan.

Q. Why should I assign my Ticket to WorkNet Pinellas?

A. WorkNet Pinellas provides high quality employment services and has an established working relationship with Social Security. WorkNet Pinellas understands the impact of going to work. WorkNet Pinellas will work with you to explore your employment options.

Q. If I go to work, what will happen to my check and my benefits?

A. SSDI offers employment supports over a long period of time to allow you to test your ability to work. Generally, this includes a nine month trial work period in which you will continue to receive cash benefits while working and continued medical coverage up to 93 months after the end of the trial work period.

Q. Do I have to use my Ticket?

A. No. Ticket to Work is a voluntary program. Individuals who want to go to work can use the Ticket to get the services they need. You can also hold on to your Ticket and use it later.

Q. Does using the Ticket affect my Medical Disability Reviews?

A. An individual using their ticket will not be subject to regularly scheduled Continuing Disability Reviews if timely progress is accomplished.

Q. I lost my Ticket. What should I do?

A. Don't worry. The Ticket sample that beneficiaries receive from the Social Security Administration is a promotional sample. WorkNet Pinellas can easily start work on your Ticket to Work today.