



# **TICKET TO WORK**

**FOR**

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# **AMERICA'S VETERANS**



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# Agenda

- The Ticket to Work Program
- Debunking the 3 Biggest Myths about Disability Benefits and Work
- Success Stories
- Becoming an Employment Network
- Questions and Answers

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



## Ticket to Work for America's Veterans

The Ticket program can help veterans ages **18 through 64** who receive Social Security disability benefits (Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)) explore their **work options** and pursue their **career goals**.





# 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  
Income

## Participation of Veterans in the Ticket Program

Today, nearly **1 million veterans** receive Social Security disability benefits. They are among the 361,000 persons who now participate in the Ticket program.





## Debunking the 3 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. You may also be able to keep it once your cash benefits stop.



## The answer is FALSE!



If you earn enough that your 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 SSI benefits due to work.

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 for 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.



# Success Stories



## Operation Job Ready Veterans

**Operation: Job Ready Veterans™ (OJRV)** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preparing service members, military spouses and caregivers for successful employment by connecting them with employers that seek well-trained candidates. Like other quality Ticket program providers, OJRV makes a sustained, personal connection with clients. This allows OJRV to offer individualized support and creative solutions for veterans of all ability levels.



## Meet Renate!

Renate, a U.S. Army Veteran, received help from the Ticket program. Renate got a job as an accountant after coping with multiple disabilities.

*“For me, being back at work has just given me a reason to get up in the morning. It’s given me a lot of self-confidence... and financial independence. That’s been huge.”*



Learn more about Renate at  
[www.choosework.net/library/renate-success-story](http://www.choosework.net/library/renate-success-story)

## Meet Robert!

Robert is a veteran who spent 7 years serving in the U.S. Army. A surgery mishap in 2000 that caused a spinal cord injury left him with limited mobility.

The Ticket program helped Robert discover his passion for helping other veterans navigate the transition back into civilian life.



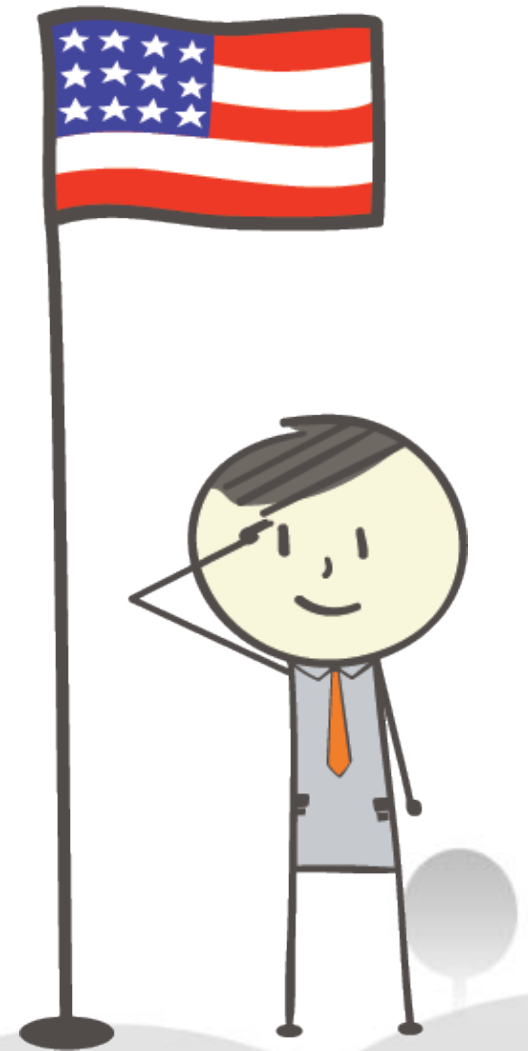
Learn more about Robert at  
[www.choosework.net/library/roberts-success-story](http://www.choosework.net/library/roberts-success-story)



## Ticket to Work for America's Veterans

As a veteran, you have much  
to **offer** employers:

- **Skills and experience**
- **Discipline and teamwork**
- **Courage and resilience**



## Ticket to Work for America's Veterans

As a veteran, you have much to **gain** from working:

- **Financial independence**
- A chance to use your **current skills** and **develop** new ones
- A chance to **connect with people** on the job and in your community



# Ticket to Work: Starting the Journey to Financial Independence



## Starting the Journey

Take advantage of Social Security's **Ticket to Work** program to get the help you need.

The Ticket program's support services and resources can help you find a meaningful career after your military service.



## Taking the Next Step

Gathering information and resources is key to planning your journey toward employment!

## Participation of Veterans in the Ticket Program

Ticket program service providers support veterans on the journey to financial independence. There are:

- More than 650 authorized service providers called **Employment Networks (EN)**.
- 75 **State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies**.
- 57 **Protection and Advocacy (PABSS)** organizations. The PABSS network is the nation's largest provider of employment-related legal and advocacy services for people with disabilities.

## Participation of Veterans in the Ticket Program (2)

- **83 Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA)** projects that provide in-depth counseling about federal and state benefits and how working can affect these and Social Security benefits. These services are available for veterans with disabilities who are interested in work, who have a job interview, a job offer, or who are already working
- Call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 866-968-7842 or 866-833-2967 (TTY) for more information about these services.



## 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, WIPA or PABSS)

## For More Information



### Call the Ticket to Work Help Line:

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

### Visit:

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

### Connect:



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Follow us on LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/ticket-to-work](http://www.linkedin.com/company/ticket-to-work)

# Becoming an Employment Network



## What is an Employment Network?

- An EN is an organization or group of organizations that has been deemed qualified to provide or coordinate 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

- For those in the audience who provide employment support services to veterans with disabilities, Ticket to Work is a program that can easily integrate into your existing business
- 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
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

