

## Partnership Plus

Under the Partnership Plus service model, the Social Security Administration (Social Security) can compensate both a State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency and an Employment Network (EN) that serve the same beneficiary under the same Ticket if:

- 1. The State VR agency has served the beneficiary under the traditional Cost Reimbursement (CR) program (available to State VR agencies only).
- 2. VR and EN services are provided sequentially, not concurrently.

Partnership Plus:

- Helps beneficiaries secure job retention and ongoing services after the State VR agency closes the case.
- Provides a financial incentive for organizations to partner to meet beneficiary needs.
- Does not interfere with existing vendor relationships where State VR agencies purchase services from a service provider under a vendor agreement while the beneficiary's State VR agency case is open.

## What you can do to take advantage of Partnership Plus

To take advantage of Partnership Plus, contact your State VR agency (or agencies in states with a separate State VR agency for people who are blind or visually impaired) and discuss the following:

- 1. Explain that Social Security has approved you to function as an EN under the Ticket to Work program.
- 2. Describe the services and supports your organization will provide as an EN.
- **3.** Explore how you can work together to help beneficiaries with disabilities maintain and advance in employment after the State VR agency closes their cases.

## **Benefits of Partnership Plus**

Partnership Plus maximizes financial compensation from Social Security through Cost Reimbursement payments to State VR agencies and Phase 2 Milestone and Outcome payments to ENs. Partnership Plus also assists beneficiaries with disabilities to:

- Enter, maintain and advance in competitive employment
- Secure ongoing support services to achieve long-term employment goals
- Maintain protection from medical Continuing Disability Reviews (CDR) after VR case closure

Learn more about <u>EN Partnership Plus</u> and <u>VR Partnership Plus</u> on the Ticket to Work for Service Providers website.