

INFORMING BENEFICIARIES OF THE GOALS OF THE TICKET PROGRAM

Employment, Benefit Reduction and Self-Sufficiency

What an Employment Network (EN) shall relate to the Ticketholder in advance of Individual Work Plan (IWP) preparation to ensure the Ticketholder understands the basics of the Ticket program:

- Your participation in the Ticket to Work and Self Sufficiency program is voluntary.
 It is important that you understand the program's goals before deciding whether it is right for you.
- The purpose of the Ticket Program is to offer you the support you need to increase both your ability to work and your earnings and reduce your reliance on Social Security Disability Insurance benefits and Supplemental Security Income payments.
- By agreeing to assign your Ticket and participate in the program, you are agreeing to make a steady effort to achieve these aims.
- Our role (EN) is to do all we can to help you replace your benefits and payments with earnings from work to the extent possible. You will not be penalized if you cannot become fully self-supporting. However, if you decide to use your Ticket you should make a commitment to try your best to achieve these goals.
- You can start out working part time during the first 9 months but should have a goal to become self-supporting in time. You should work towards having earnings of [give TWL dollar amount] or more a month by at least the 10th month after you start working with us. You should also have a goal to earn at least [give SGA dollar amount] or more a month after your first year of work.
- The Ticket program is not a good fit for every disability beneficiary. But, if you are committed to trying to work, we are here to provide the services and support to help you to do so.
- That you (EN) should tell the Ticketholder you will not advise or condone the practice of artificially manipulating a Ticketholder's work and earnings to remain on Social Security disability benefits or payments.



What Employment Networks (EN) cannot say or imply to a Ticketholder concerning their work goals:

That a Ticketholder can work part time indefinitely with the support of the EN.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You must be clear that you support Ticketholders to gain and sustain full self-sufficiency. An EN must offer Ticketholders the types of opportunities and support that enable Ticketholders to achieve these results. It is unacceptable for an EN to assist a Ticketholder in obtaining employment that will result in the Ticketholder earning less than Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA).

If you have further questions or inquiries, you may use the contact information provided below.

• Website: <u>choosework.ssa.gov</u>

• Email: <u>TicketToWork@ssa.gov</u>

• Call: 1-866-968-7842 (toll-free) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY/TDD)

O Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET