



Professional Development

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Ticket to Work

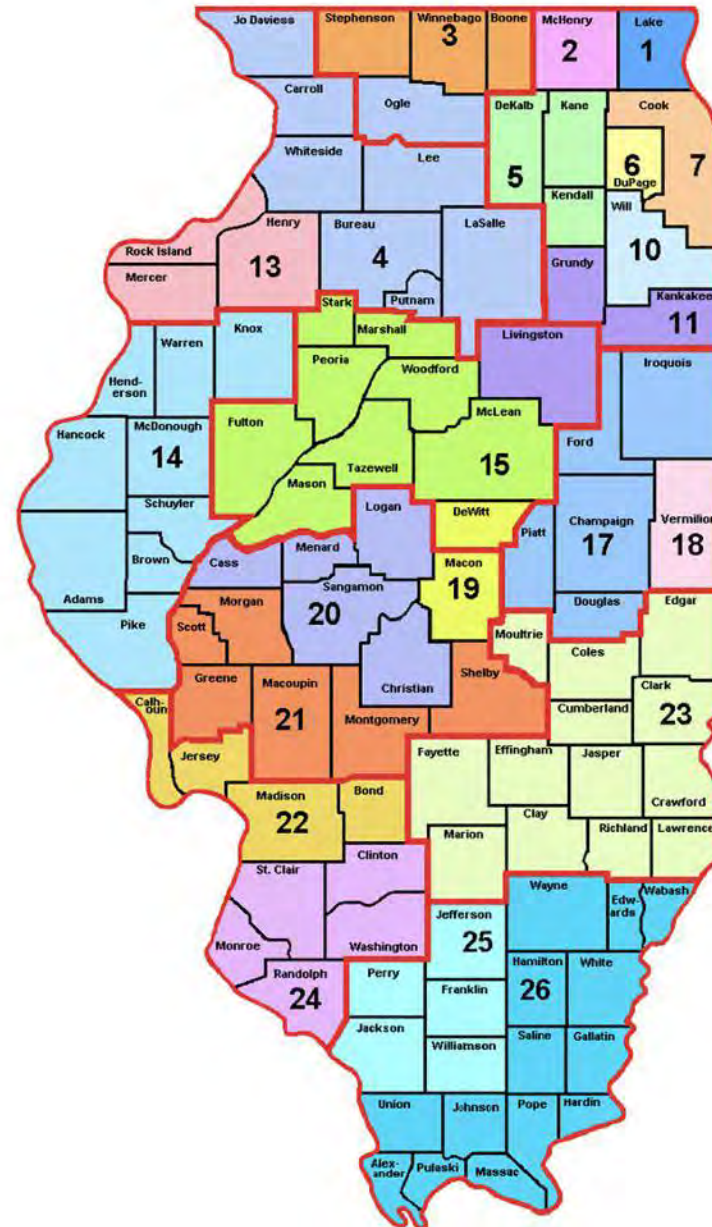
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Kiersten Baer

- Online Marketing Coordinator
 - Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support
- ksheary@ilstu.edu
- 309-438-1838

Where is Your Local Area?



Which partner do you best represent?





Kim Farley

- Kim Farley
- Program Advisor
- DHS/Division of Rehabilitation Services
- (217)558-1214
- 217-685-2247



Agenda

- Participation in the Ticket to Work Program
- Ticket Assignment Process
- Cost Sharing and Dual Ticket holders
- Cost Reimbursement or Ticket
- Ticket Payments and Substantial Gainful Activity
- Ticket and Cost Reimbursement Statistics
- Trial Work Period
- Case Closures
- Claims on Open Cases
- Service Providers
- Helpful Links



Working Together Brings Up Full Circle

The goal seems achievable for all:



The Ticket Process

Ticket Unassignment Form



Finding the right service provider is an important step on your journey toward financial independence! If you have decided to end your relationship with your current provider, you have the right to unassign your Ticket and take it to another provider.

If you have questions about your unassignment or about Ticket to Work, please call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 866-968-7842 or 866-833-2967 (TTY) Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET.

To unassign your Ticket, please provide the following information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Employment Network (EN) Name: _____

Please identify the reason(s) you are unassigning your Ticket from this EN. Check all that apply.

- Not satisfied with services
- Cannot contact/ Non-responsive
- Found another provider
- No longer interested in participating in Ticket to Work
- Health issues
- Other

I, _____ request that my Ticket be unassigned from this EN.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail this completed form to: Ticket Program Manager (TPM)
ATTN: Ticket Unassignment
P.O. Box 1433
Alexandria, VA 22313

Or fax it to 703-893-4020, ATTN: Ticket Unassignment

Application for Benefits

▲ Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates ▲

 Social Security SEARCH

Apply Online for Disability Benefits

Social Security offers an online disability application you can complete at your convenience. Apply from the comfort of your home or any location at a time most convenient for you. You do not need to drive to your local Social Security office or wait for an appointment with a Social Security representative.

Who can apply for adult disability benefits online? +

How do I apply for benefits? +

What information do I need to apply for benefits? +

What documents do I need to provide? +

What are the advantages of applying using our online disability application process? +

What happens after I apply? +

What other ways can I apply? +

Apply for Disability Return to a Saved Application Check Application Status

<https://www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability/>

Reasons for Termination

- 1. General rule — entitlement/eligibility based on disability or blindness terminated for reasons other than work or earnings**
- 2. Special rules — entitlement/eligibility based on disability or blindness terminated because of work or earnings**

2021 Ticket Payments

2021 Payments at a Glance

OUTCOME PAYMENT METHOD

Payment Type	Beneficiary Earnings Required After Ticket Assignment	SSI Ticketholder (Title XVI)	SSDI Ticketholder (Title II)
Outcome	Earnings sufficient for "zero" cash benefits status	Up to 60 Payments of \$480/Month	Up to 36 payments of \$844/Month
Total of Outcome Payments Available		\$ 28,800	\$ 30,384

MILESTONE OUTCOME PAYMENT METHOD

Payment Type	Beneficiary Earnings	SSI Payment Amount (Title XVI)	SSDI Payment Amount (Title II)
Phase 1 Milestones**			
Milestone 1	\$940/mo. x 1 mo.	\$1,512	\$1,512
Milestone 2	\$940/mo. x 3 mos. w/in 6 mos.	\$1,512	\$1,512
Milestone 3	\$940/mo. x 6 mos. w/in 12 mos.	\$1,512	\$1,512
Milestone 4	\$940/mo. x 9 mos. w/in 18 mos.	\$1,512	\$1,512
Total Potential Phase 1 Milestones		\$6,048	\$6,048
Phase 2 Milestones	Gross Earnings > SGA (\$1,310/\$2,190)***	\$258/mo. for up to 18 mos. = \$4,644	\$453/mo. for up to 11 mos. = \$4,983
Total Potential Phase 1+2 Milestones		\$10,692	\$11,031
Outcome	Earnings > SGA (\$1,310/\$2,190)*** And federal cash benefit = \$0	\$258/mo. for up to 60 mos. = \$15,480	\$453/mo. for up to 36 mos. = \$16,308
Total Potential Milestone and Outcome Payments		\$ 26,172	\$ 27,339

*The payment rate in effect at the time the Milestone or Outcome is attained is the rate that will be paid for that particular month, regardless of when the payment request is submitted.

** Please contact the Payments Help Desk (at ENPaymentsHelpdesk@yourtickettowork.ssa.gov) for explanations to exceptions.

*** The 2021 monthly SGA amounts are \$1,310 for non-blind and \$2,190 for blind individuals.

Phase 1 Milestone Exclusions

Phase One Milestone Eligibility with Successful VR Closure: The Ticket Program Manager (TPM) will use the 18-month look-back period to identify if any State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies closed the beneficiary's claim successfully (i.e. successful closure) within 18 months prior to Ticket assignment, to determine initial eligibility for Phase 1 Milestone payments.

- 18-Month Lookback Rule: If a beneficiary had TWL earnings during some or all of the 18 months prior to the first Ticket assignment, some or all of the Phase 1 Milestones may be excluded from payment. Access the 18-Month Lookback Tool in the Information Center on the [Resource Documents](#) page. The earnings criteria used for payment of Phase 1 Milestones are reversed to determine eligibility for payment based on the 18-month lookback rule as noted below.
- P1M1 is not available if a beneficiary worked with earnings above the TWL in the calendar month immediately prior to Ticket assignment.
- P1M2 is not available if a beneficiary worked with earnings above the TWL in 3 of the 6 months immediately prior to Ticket assignment.
- P1M3 is not available if a beneficiary worked with earnings above the TWL in 6 of the 12 months immediately prior to Ticket assignment.
- P1M4 is not available if a beneficiary worked with earnings above the TWL in 9 of 18 months immediately prior to Ticket assignment.

Substantial Gainful Activity

Monthly substantial gainful activity amounts by disability type

Year	Blind	Non-blind	Year	Blind	Non-blind	Year	Blind	Non-blind
1975	\$200	\$200	1995	\$940	\$500	2015	\$1,820	\$1,090
1976	230	230	1996	960	500	2016	1,820	1,130
1977	240	240	1997	1,000	500	2017	1,950	1,170
1978	334	260	1998	1,050	500	2018	1,970	1,180
1979	375	280	1999	1,110	700 ^a	2019	2,040	1,220
1980	417	300	2000	1,170	700	2020	2,110	1,260
1981	459	300	2001	1,240	740	2021	2,190	1,310
1982	500	300	2002	1,300	780			
1983	550	300	2003	1,330	800			
1984	580	300	2004	1,350	810			
1985	610	300	2005	1,380	830			
1986	650	300	2006	1,450	860			
1987	680	300	2007	1,500	900			
1988	700	300	2008	1,570	940			
1989	740	300	2009	1,640	980			
1990	780	500	2010	1,640	1,000			
1991	810	500	2011	1,640	1,000			
1992	850	500	2012	1,690	1,010			
1993	880	500	2013	1,740	1,040			
1994	930	500	2014	1,800	1,070			

^a \$500 amount applied in the first half of 1999.



Ticket and Cost Reimbursement Received

Ticket and Cost Reimbursement Received
5 Year Historical Ticket and Cost Reimbursement Data

		Ticket Payments	Ticket payments not rec'd as of 3/15	Cost Reimbursements	Cost Reimb. paid but not rec'd as of 3/15	Total Reimbursements
2021 ytd	---	\$1,484,898.00	\$375,074.00	\$3,045,498.56	\$135,182.90	\$5,040,653.46
2020	---	\$4,474,978.00		\$2,980,374.74		\$7,455,352.74
2019	---	\$1,258,556.00		\$5,482,675.63		\$6,741,231.63
2018	---	\$2,463,406.00		\$7,807,065.57		\$10,270,471.57
2017	---	\$3,933,922.18		\$2,513,493.09		\$6,447,415.27

Trial Work Period

Ticket to Work Program Fact Sheet

<https://choosework.ssa.gov/Assets/cw/files/Library/2020/Fact-Sheet-Trial-Work-Period-TWP.pdf>



Ticket to Work Program Fact Sheet

Trial Work Period

What are Work Incentives?

Social Security Work Incentives are rules that help beneficiaries enter, re-enter, or continue in employment by protecting their eligibility for cash payments and/or health care coverage until they achieve self-supporting employment. Whether you're looking for a job for the first time or returning to work after an injury or illness, Work Incentives can help you through the transition to work and towards financial independence. The Trial Work Period (TWP) is one of the many Work Incentives available to Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) recipients.

What is a Trial Work Period?

If you receive SSDI, your TWP allows you to test your ability to work for at least 9 months. During your TWP, you'll receive full SSDI benefit payments, no matter how much you earn — as long as you report your work activity and continue to meet Social Security's rules for disability. The TWP continues until you accumulate nine TWP service months (not necessarily consecutive) within a rolling 60-month period.

Social Security uses the amount you have earned in a month before subtracting taxes, to decide if a month counts toward your TWP. In 2021, if you earn

\$940 or more, or work more than 80 hours in self-employment in a month you're considered to have worked a TWP "service month," which is counted toward your TWP.

You may have heard of **substantial gainful activity** (SGA), but this amount differs from the TWP amount. Social Security uses SGA later during your path to financial independence to determine your eligibility for benefits.

Unlike with SGA, Social Security cannot use other Work Incentives to determine if your work activity meets or exceeds this established amount. So, in 2021, if your pre-tax income is \$940 or more, you're using a month of your TWP.

What happens when my Trial Work Period is completed?

After you complete your TWP, you will begin your 36-month Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE). This Work Incentive is a safeguard during which time Social Security will evaluate your work and earnings based on SGA levels to determine your eligibility for benefits. In 2021, SGA is \$1,310 for individuals who are not blind. If you are blind, SGA in 2021 is \$2,190.

During your EPE, you will receive benefits for all months during which your work and earnings fall below SGA level and you continue to have a disabling impairment. SSA will consider whether other Work Incentives can be applied to your situation.



for example, whether the cost of certain impairment-related expenses and services that you need to work can be deducted from your gross earnings when deciding if your work is SGA.

The first time you work above SGA in the EPE, Social Security will decide that you no longer meet the requirements for disability due to work. At that point, your disability will be considered "ceased". Social Security will pay benefits for the month your disability ceased and the following two months. This is the grace period. If your earnings fall below SGA and you are still in the 36-month re-entitlement period, Social Security can restart your benefits without a new application.

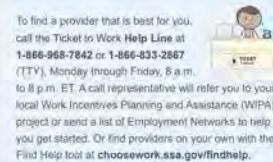


Expedited Reinstatement (EXR), acts as a safety net for people who successfully return to work and lose their entitlement to benefits. If you need to stop working because of a medical impairment that's the same as or related to your original disabling impairment within 5 years of when your benefits stopped, EXR makes it possible for you to have your benefits start again without needing to submit a new application.

Learn more

For more employment resources and job support, Social Security's Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program can help. The Ticket Program supports career development for people ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security disability benefits (SSDI/SSI) and want to work. This free and voluntary program offers services and supports designed to help people with disabilities reach their career goals.

Many Ticket Program service providers have a certified **Benefits Counselor** on staff who can help you learn more about your public benefits and the Work Incentives that apply to you. You can also learn more in Social Security's Red Book at www.ssa.gov/redbook.



Follow the Ticket Program on social media!

- Contact the Ticket Program: choosework.ssa.gov/contact
- Like us on Facebook! @ChooseWork
- Follow us on Twitter! @ChooseWorkSSA

To view online and access the resources linked in the fact sheet, please visit: <https://choosework.ssa.gov/library/fact-sheet-trial-work-period>

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Net Payment Period

Net Payment Period

Administrative and Direct Costs are paid within the Net Payment Period.

Net Payment Period *Begins:*

The latter of: VR Enter Date (Referral Date)

Or

Benefits Begin Date

Net Payment Period *Ends:*

The earliest of: VR Closure Date

Or

Last Month (9th) of Consecutive SGA

Service Providers

- <https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/>

Find Help

Find Help to Achieve Your Work Goals

Ticket to Work service providers offer Social Security disability beneficiaries (persons who receive SSI or SSDI) age 18 through 64 who want to work with [free job support](#).

Services offered may include job coaching, job counseling, training, benefits counseling and job placement.

The tools on this page can help you find a service provider to help you find employment support.



Different Providers, Different Services

Each type of service provider offers different services. **It's important to understand, in general, what each provider does before searching, so you can select the type that can best help you.** [Learn more about Ticket to Work service providers.](#)

Once you have selected the type of service provider, it is also important to understand that even the same type of provider can provide you a different mix of services. If you choose to work with an Employment Network or Workforce Employment Network, the [Finding an EN and Assigning Your Ticket Worksheet](#) can help you interview service providers to find the best one for you.

Here are some [additional tips](#) about how to use your search results.

Two Ways to Search:

Once you understand the different providers available, there are two ways you can search.

Option 1: *Guided Search*

The Guided Search asks a series of questions to determine your readiness for the program and provides a list of service providers that are a best fit for you.

[Start Your Guided Search](#)

- OR -

Option 2: *Direct Search*

Use the Direct Search to view a list of service providers serving your ZIP code. This tool can search based on the type of provider and whether services are provided in person or virtually.

Results can be narrowed further by services offered, disabilities served, or other specialized expertise.

[Start Your Direct Search](#)



Helpful Links



- **Ticket to Work/Ticket Un-assignment Form**

<https://choosework.ssa.gov/Assets/cw/docs-materials/Ticket-Unassignment-Form.pdf>

- **Termination of a Ticket as Determined by the SSA**

• Reasons for termination: <https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0455002055>

- **Ticket Payments at a Glance**

• <https://yourtickettowork.ssa.gov/Assets/yttw/docs/information-center/resource-documents/payments-resources/EN-payments-glance-2021.pdf>

- **Phase 1 Milestone Exclusions**

• <https://yourtickettowork.ssa.gov/employment-networks/phase-1-milestone-exclusions.html>

- **Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) Amounts**

• <https://www.ssa.gov/oact/cola/sga.html>

- **Service Providers**

• <https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/>

- **SSI/SSDI Benefits Application Process**

• <https://www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability/>

• <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/ssi/>

- **Trial Work Period**

• <https://choosework.ssa.gov/Assets/cw/files/Library/2020/Fact-Sheet-Trial-Work-Period-TWP.pdf>



Questions

- Kim Farley
- Program Advisor
- DHS/Division of Rehabilitation Services
- (217)558-1214
- 217-685-2247