



# TICKET to Work

## Become an Employment Network

Earn unrestricted funds to use for an unlimited range of purposes while helping Social Security disability beneficiaries achieve their employment goals.

The Social Security Administration (Social Security) invites eligible organizations to apply to become **Employment Networks (EN)** with the Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program. ENs support career development for people ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. Social Security refers to qualified SSDI beneficiaries and SSI recipients as “Ticketholders.”

An EN can be an individual, a partnership/alliance (public or private), or a consortium of organizations collaborating to provide or coordinate the delivery of employment support services to Ticketholders.

The Ticket Program is outcome-based, offering ENs financial compensation for successfully assisting Ticketholders to start, maintain, and advance in employment. Many organizations become ENs to add new funding in an area in which they already have experience – **helping people with disabilities to become financially self-sufficient through employment.**

**As an EN, you can advance your organizational mission, enhance your service offerings, and build sustainable, discretionary income.**



**BRAID** Ticket Program services and income with existing disability employment programs.



**TEAM** with like-minded partners such as State Vocational Rehabilitation agencies, colleges, and community-based organizations to maximize resources.



**EARN** up to \$30,000 in unrestricted funding for each Ticketholder who achieves a certain level of work and earnings.



**INCREASE** employment outcomes for Ticketholders to become financially self-sufficient & reduce their reliance on Social Security benefits and payments.



“ We earn approximately **\$289,000 per year**. And since about 2010, we’ve received **\$2.9 million** in unrestricted dollars. ”

– Florida-Based EN

# Employment Networks at Work

The following is a snapshot of how ENs ramp up, operate, and succeed.

## TRAINING

New ENs are welcomed and onboarded via a virtual training program to learn about their Ticket Program responsibilities. EN staff must also have or obtain a suitability clearance (i.e. a background investigation) before serving Ticketholders. ENs stay informed and learn best practices through national quarterly calls with Social Security and [supplemental training](#).

## MARKETING

ENs can tap into a wealth of Ticket Program marketing resources. One is the [Find Help Tool](#), an online search tool where Ticketholders can find and contact ENs. ENs maintain fresh marketing content by using social media, fact sheets, blogs, videos, and graphics, specifically designed for Ticket Program communications. ENs may also consult the [EN Guide to Marketing](#) for step-by-step planning.

## PROVIDING SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

ENs must provide or coordinate the delivery of employment support services to Ticketholders. The [EN Guide for Working with Ticketholders](#) describes in detail:

- ✓ **Intake:** With each Ticketholder, ENs discuss the purpose of the program, their eligibility, and explore their interests, career aspirations, and goals. Together they decide whether they are a good match, and if the EN can assist the Ticketholder to achieve his or her goals.
- ✓ **Individual Work Plans (IWP):** If the match is right, ENs work with each Ticketholder to develop an IWP, an agreement that outlines specific short- and long-term goals and how the EN will help the Ticketholder meet their goals through career planning, job placement assistance, and ongoing employment support. Both parties sign the IWP, which becomes the EN/Ticketholder agreement. The Ticket is assigned to the EN immediately after IWP completion.
- ✓ **Communication:** ENs and Ticketholders work together and must communicate at least monthly during the job search phase. Once employed, they communicate at least quarterly to discuss and assess the Ticketholder's employment support needs, and the EN offers and provides employment services as needed.

## PAYMENTS

ENs earn payments when Ticketholders achieve milestones and outcomes related to work and earnings. ENs use online systems to either request payments via Social Security's Ticket Portal or receive them through an automated process.

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## Interested in Becoming an EN? Start Today!

- ▶ We encourage you to **explore more details** including the [Benefits of Becoming an EN](#) and the [Qualifications to Become an EN](#).
  - ▶ You can **apply to join** the Ticket Program by completing the [EN Request for Application \(RFA\)](#).
  - ▶ For more **information and assistance** please contact [ENRecruitment@SSA.gov](mailto:ENRecruitment@SSA.gov).
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