What is Ticket to Work?

The Ticket to Work program is **free** and voluntary for most people ages 18-64 who receive Social Security Disability Insurance and/or Supplemental Security Income. Ticket to Work is administered by Social Security and is available to most beneficiaries.

The goal of Ticket to Work is to help beneficiaries obtain employment and earn enough money so they no longer need Social Security benefits. Ticket to Work gives beneficiaries a choice in how they receive services so they can go to work or earn more money.

A beneficiary can receive services from either a state vocational rehabilitation program or an Employment Network. An EN is a private organization or government agency that has agreed to work with Social Security to provide employment services to beneficiaries.



Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Benefits Planning Team

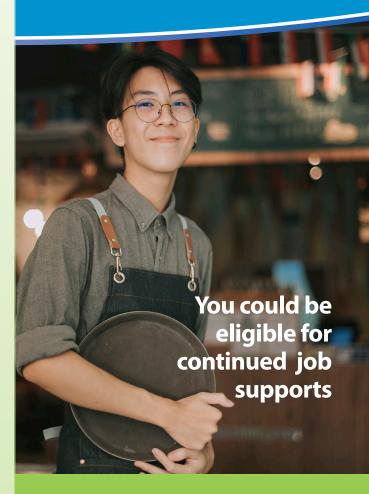
PO Box 45459 Olympia, WA 98504 Toll Free: 800-637-5627 Washington Relay: 711 Email: DVRCSR@dshs.wa.gov

dshs.wa.gov/dvr

State and federal funds are used to deliver DVR services. The VR program receives approximately 78 percent in federal funds and 22 percent in state funds. For detailed information on the dollar amount of federal funds for the program, please visit rsa.ed.gov/fiscal/grant-awards

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Partnership Plus



Washington State Department of Social and Health Services <u>Division of Vocational R</u>ehabilitation



ransforming lives



What is Partnership Plus?

Entering or re-entering the workforce can be an adjustment for many. DVR works in partnership with ENs within the community to help eligible customers utilize continued Ticket to Work job supports once their DVR case is closed. This gives eligible Ticket to Work beneficiaries access to continued free individualized employment services and allows for a smooth transition for the customer from DVR to postemployment retention services provided by the EN.



I have a job and have been working with DVR. Am I eligible for Partnership Plus?

Not every DVR customer is eligible for continued job supports with an Employment Network through the Partnership Plus program, but you are, if the following qualifications are met:

- You receive SSDI or SSI.
- Are between the ages of 18 and 64.
- Have a valid Ticket to Work.
- You are earning above Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) or have goals of earning above SGA.

How can an EN help me?

Once you have found work that pays above SGA (or you have goals to earn above SGA), an EN may be able to help you:

- Get and establish job accommodations.
- Communicate with employers.
- · Remain employed.
- Enjoy career advancement.
- Stay in touch with Social Security.
- Stay organized.
- Report earnings.
- Answer questions about how working can affect benefits.



When a Ticket to Work is in use, either with DVR or an EN, medical reviews are suspended because the end goal is to become self-sufficient to the point where Social Security benefits are no longer needed.

The desired outcome of Partnership Plus is to improve employment rates and increase success and independence for customers.