

Ticket to Work (TTW) and Self-Sufficiency

2026 Fact Sheet on Work Incentives

What is Ticket to Work (TTW)?

Ticket to Work (TTW) is a voluntary Social Security program that can help you find a job.

How does the TTW program work?

When you assign your ticket to an Employment Network (EN) or sign up with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), you're agreeing to work with them to find a job earning at least \$1,210 a month, and eventually \$1,690 a month or more. It's free because Social Security pays the EN or VR when your earnings reach these amounts for a certain length of time.

What is an Employment Network (EN)?

An EN is an organization that contracts with Social Security to help people who receive SSI or Title II (SSDI, CDB, or DWB) benefits with finding and keeping a job. The EN can work with you to develop a job goal, write a resume, learn interviewing skills, help you apply for jobs, and help you keep your job. To find an EN, go to <https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp>, 1-866-968-7842 (voice), or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY).

Will the EN accept my TTW?

ENs are not required to accept your TTW. An EN will decide based largely on whether or not you plan to work at a level that will trigger payments from Social Security to the EN.

What if an EN will not accept my TTW?

You can still receive free services through your local Career Center or state vocational rehabilitation (VR) program. Also, if you have a mental health diagnosis and are eligible to receive MaineCare case management or behavioral health home services, you may qualify to work with an Employment Specialist with the MaineHealth Community Employment Services project. Call the number on the below for more information.

Will the EN help me go back to school?

The EN receives payments from Social Security only when you're working. ENs usually do **not** assist with school plans. But VR might, and there are other resources such as Social Security's Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) and Federal Student Aid.

What are other benefits of using my TTW?

Social Security won't do a medical Continuing Disability Review (CDR) if your TTW is assigned and you are making progress toward your employment goal.



Vocational Services

Benefits Counseling Services • 1-888-208-8700 • benefitsandworkinme.org