Ticket to Work: Supporting Access to Good Jobs for All



OCTOBER 23, 2024

Live Webinar Will Begin at 3 p.m. ET

Ticket to Work: Supporting Access to Good Jobs for All



to Work

TICKET WISE Work Incentive Seminar Event

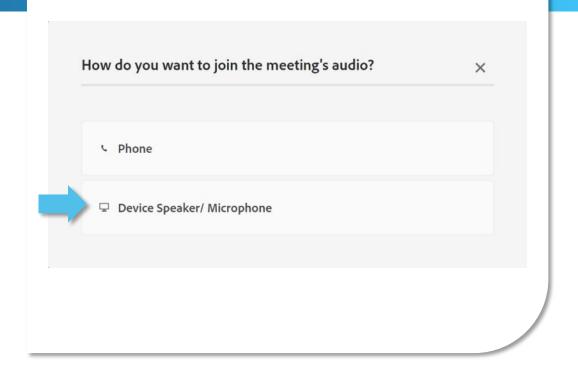
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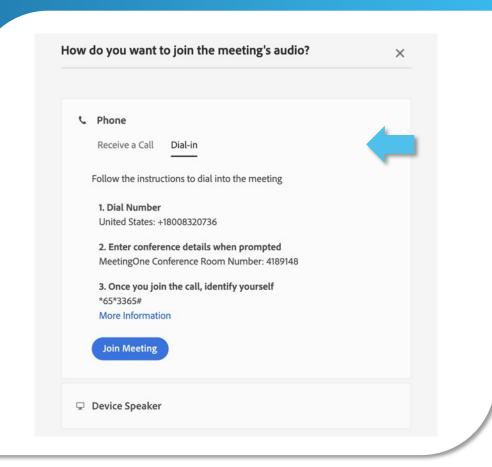
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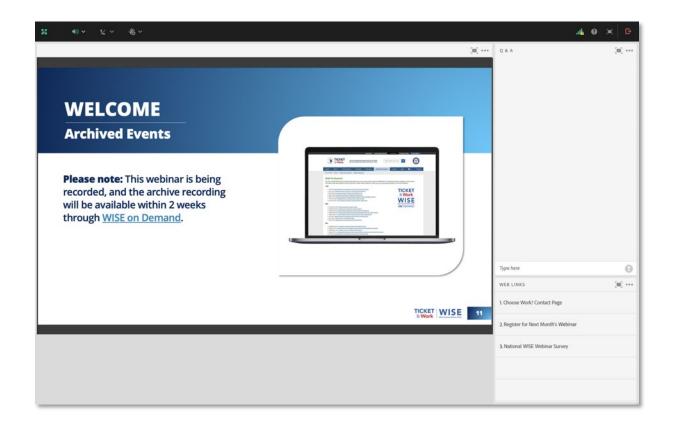
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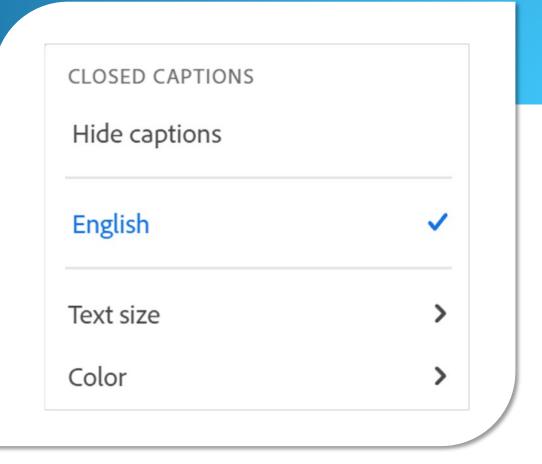


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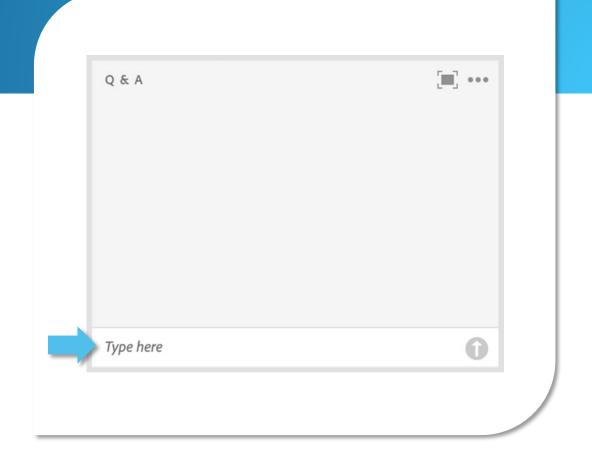
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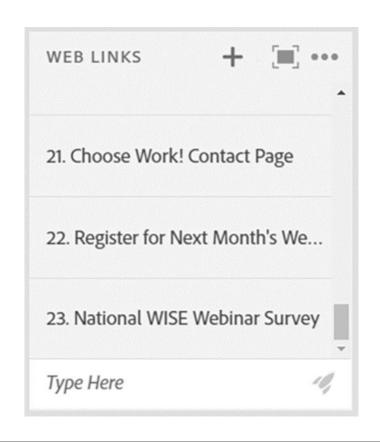
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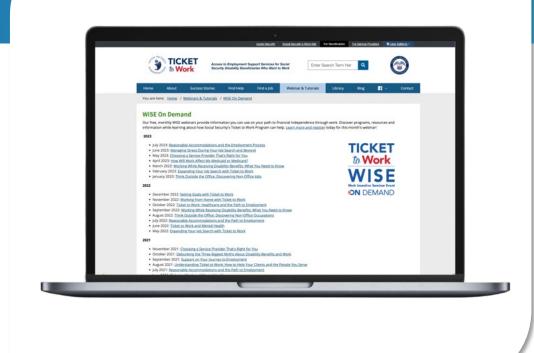
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Presenters



MODERATOR
Raymond A. Cebula, III, J.D.
Cornell University



SPEAKER

Derek Shields

Ticket Program Manager

Webinar Overview

What is Ticket to Work?

Good Jobs for All: Learn While You Work

Good Jobs for All: Federal Employment

Putting it all Together: How the Ticket to Work Program Works

What is Ticket to Work?

What Is Social Security's Ticket to Work Program?

Social Security's Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program

- Is a free and voluntary Social Security program.
- Offers career development for people ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security disability benefits and want to work.



How Can the Ticket Program Help?

The Ticket to Work Program connects you with free employment services to help you:

- Decide if work is right for you.
- Prepare for work.
- Find a paid work opportunity.
- Succeed at work.

Learn More:

What is Social Security's Ticket to Work Program?

Self-Guided Tutorial



Ticket to Work: Supporting Good Jobs for All

- The Ticket Program is not a direct hiring program, meaning that participating in the program does not guarantee you will find a job.
- However, it can help you connect with job search resources and special hiring programs for individuals with disabilities. Ticket Program <u>service providers</u> have specialized job placement expertise, and many have relationships with employers looking to hire people like you!



Good Jobs for All: Learn While You Work

Internships

- An internship is usually a short-term work opportunity that allows you to get experience in a career that interests you or explore different fields as you consider your career options.
- Some are connected to educational programs and offer academic credit. Others are with businesses, government or non-governmental organizations.
- They may last between four weeks and a year.
- May be paid or unpaid.



How Do You Find an Internship?

- Use your network: ask family and friends if they know of any opportunities that match your career interests.
- Visit your area's <u>American Job Center</u>.
 - Ask about youth programs and summer jobs.
 - Meet with a career counselor.
- Target specific employers you want to work for:
 - Look for opportunities on their websites.
 - Reach out to employers directly to find out if they have internship opportunities, learn more about what it's like to work for them and what they're looking for in an employee or volunteer.

Finding an Internship

Check out these resources to help you find an internship that interests you:

- Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities (WRP): Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy, the WRP links highly qualified college students and recent graduates with disabilities to federal and private sector agencies seeking interns and permanent employees. Learn more in our <u>blog post</u>!
- <u>Emerging Leaders Internship Program for College Students with Disabilities</u>: This program is funded by the UPS Foundation and coordinated by the National Business & Disability Council to help undergraduate and graduate college students with disabilities find internships nationwide.
- Entry Point!: The American Association for the Advancement of Science's internship resource for students with disabilities who are studying science, engineering, mathematics, and computer science.

Internship Resources

- The <u>Pathways Programs</u> promote employment in the federal workforce to current students and recent graduates. They offer specific programs for current students, recent graduates of qualifying educational institutions or programs, and people with advanced degrees.
- <u>Idealistist.org</u> is a site where you can search for internships based on location, type of job (remote, hybrid, onsite) and type of organization (nonprofit, government, etc.)

Make the Most of Your Internship

- Ask questions
- Volunteer to take on work or additional duties, if appropriate
- Seek constructive criticism
- Make new contacts
- Reflect on your experience



Apprenticeships

- An apprenticeship is an educational program combining work with learning and training, both on and off the job.
- It combines the development of theoretical knowledge regarding a particular occupation or range of occupations with practical experience gained by doing the job.



What Is the Value of an Apprenticeship?

- Apprenticeships offer an entry point into an industry.
- They are real jobs with paid salaries.
- An experienced worker will mentor you.
- Opportunities may exist to advance in your chosen career.

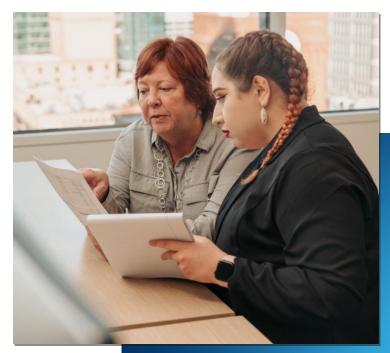
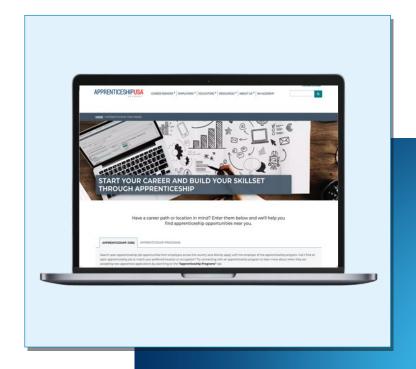


Photo from Disability:IN

Finding an Apprenticeship

- Apprenticeship.gov is the one-stop source to connect career seekers, employers, and education partners with apprenticeship resources. It offers apprenticeships across industries, illustrates how programs are started by employers, and describes how to become an apprentice.
- To become an apprentice, search for an opportunity using the <u>Apprenticeship</u>
 <u>Finder</u> and apply directly with the employer or the program sponsor.



Good Jobs for All: Federal Employment

What are the Benefits of Working for the Federal Government?

- Federal employees serve in a variety of jobs, earn good salaries, are eligible for medical benefits, and make a difference through public service. The federal government hires people in many different fields, like accounting, public affairs, health care, law enforcement, education, transportation, Information Technology (IT) and so many more.
- There are a number of ways that people can apply for a job in the federal government.

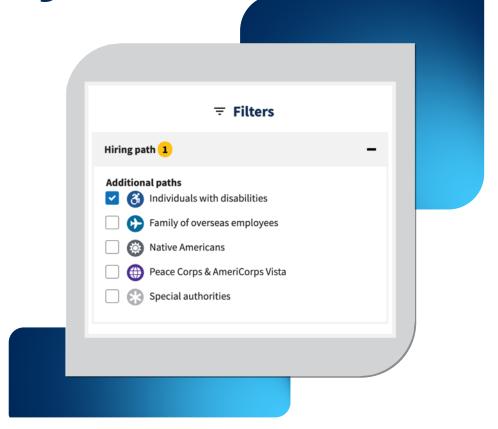


What Is Schedule A?

- If you're a person with a disability, you can apply and compete for any federal government job for which you are eligible and meet the qualifications. But you also may be eligible for a special hiring authority.
- Schedule A refers to a special hiring authority that gives federal agencies an optional way to hire qualified people with disabilities.
- Applying under Schedule A offers an exception to the traditional competitive hiring process. You can apply for jobs using Schedule A if you are a person with an intellectual disability, a severe physical disability, or a psychiatric disability.

How Do I Know a Federal Job Is Open to Individuals With a Disability?

- Visit <u>USAJOBS</u>.
- In the job announcement, look for the section called **This job is open to**. When a job is open to **Individuals with a disability**, you'll see this icon:
 - There may be other groups listed that are also eligible to apply.
- You can also select the Individuals with disabilities filter in the search function. Your results will display all jobs open to individuals with disabilities.



What Are My Next Steps?

- To begin the Schedule A process, obtain a letter to document your disability.
- Review and update your resume with skills, abilities and references relevant to the position.
- If you're interested in a specific position, contact the agency's Selective Placement Program Coordinator (SPPC) using the <u>SPPC Directory</u>.
 - SPPCs help agencies recruit, hire, and accommodate people with disabilities.

Source: U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission





Putting it all Together: How the Ticket to Work Program Works

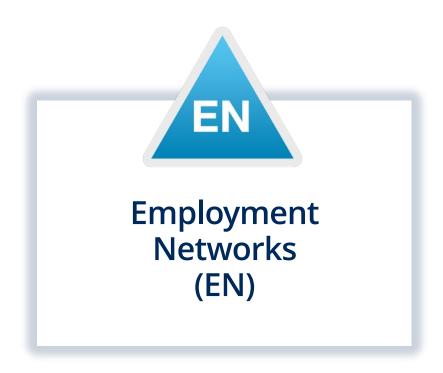
How Ticket to Work Works for You

- Ticket to Work connects you with free employment services to help you decide if working is right for you, prepare for work, find a job or maintain success while you are working.
- Everyone age 18 through 64 who receives Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits because of his or her disability is eligible to participate in the Ticket Program.
- Participation in the Ticket Program is free and voluntary.



Ticket Program Service Providers

Through the Ticket Program, You'll Have Access to a Variety of Ticket Program Service Providers, Including:





Employment Network (EN)

An **EN** is a private or public organization that has an agreement with Social Security to provide free employment support services to people who are eligible for the Ticket Program.

Many state public workforce systems, such as American Job Centers, are **Workforce ENs**.



How Can Working With an EN Help You?

Services and supports are designed to help you on the path to financial independence through work and may include helping you to:

- Identify your work goals.
- Write and review your resume.
- Prepare for interviews.
- Request reasonable accommodations.
- Receive benefits counseling.

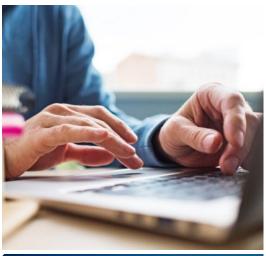


State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agency

A **State VR agency** provides a wide variety of services to help people with disabilities return to work, enter new lines of work or enter the workforce for the first time. A State VR agency may offer benefits counseling and may also be able to help you with:

- Vocational rehabilitation
- Training and education







Some states
have separate VR
agencies that serve
individuals who
are blind or
visually impaired.

How Can Working With a VR Help You?

VR agencies:

- Usually work with individuals who need more significant services.
- In some states, this includes intensive training, education and rehabilitation.
- They may also provide career counseling, job placement assistance as well as counseling about how earnings from work may affect Social Security disability benefits.



How Do You Find a Service Provider?

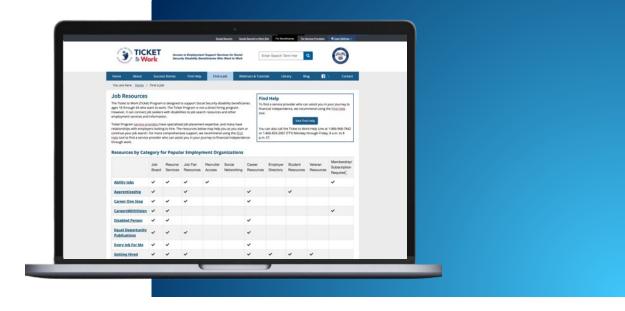
- For a list of service providers, call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY), Monday Friday, 8 am 8 pm ET
- To find a service provider online, visit the <u>Find Help page</u>. Search by:
 - ✓ ZIP code
 - ✓ Services offered
 - ✓ Disability type
 - ✓ Languages spoken
 - ✓ Provider type
 (EN, Workforce EN or VR)



Find a Job!

Once you connect with a Ticket Program service provider, take a look at our <u>Find a Job</u> page, where you can view resources to help you start or continue your job search.

You don't have to have a service provider or assign your Ticket before finding a job, but both open up a world of opportunities to help you explore work as a path to financial independence.



Job Search Resource Examples

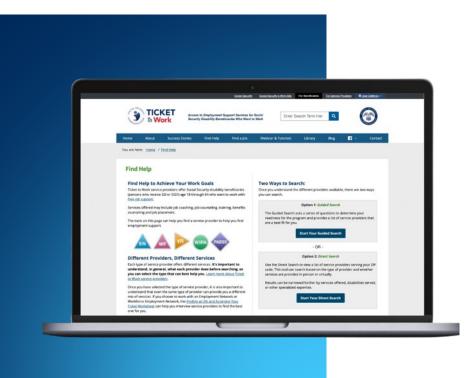
Our Find a Job page lists organizations that have online job search resources that can help you pursue your employment goals. Some of the organizations also offer an employer directory and access to recruiters.

Here are a few examples:

- AbilityJobs
- CareerOneStop
- LinkedIn
- Monster







How To Get Started

Social Security's Ticket to Work Program has resources ready to help you get started!

Call the Ticket to Work Help Line

1-866-968-7842

1-866-833-2967 (TTY)

Visit Our Website

choosework.ssa.gov

Use the Find Help Tool

choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp

Use the Find a Job Tool

https://choosework.ssa.gov/find-a-job



How To Connect

- Visit the Choose Work! Contact page to find us on social media and subscribe to blog and email updates.
- Opt-in to receive text messages by texting TICKET to 1-571-489-5292.
 Standard messaging rates may apply. You may opt-out at any time.
- Email us at support@choosework.ssa.gov.



Ticket to Work Help Line

The Ticket to Work Program offers a toll-free Help Line to answer your questions and support you on your journey to financial independence.

Call the Ticket to Work Help Line Monday - Friday, 8 am - 8 pm ET

1-866-968-7842 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)

TICKET to Work

Work Incentive Seminar Event

Join Us for Our Next WISE Webinar!

Ticket to Work for America's Veterans

November 20, 2024

3 pm - 4:30 pm ET

REGISTER ONLINE

or call **1-866-968-7842** or **1-866-833-2967 (TTY)**