



# Ticket to Work Resources of Interest

## Want to Know The Benefits of Becoming an Employment Network (EN)?

**Choose Work:** ChooseWork.net is an exciting new website containing a number of motivational videos encouraging work, including clips of real beneficiaries telling why they chose work, a Ticket to Work overview and a film of a Work Incentives Seminar Event (WISE). Use this tool to help motivate your consumers to Choose Work! More information is available at: <http://choosework.net/>.

**Employment Network Handbooks:** These tools walk you through the process of becoming an EN, give you background on the Ticket to Work legislation and highlight other tools that are available to you. Two new handbooks are now available at: [www.cessi.net/ttw/resources.html](http://www.cessi.net/ttw/resources.html).

- The *Employment Network Handbook for Service Providers*
- The *Employment Network Handbook for Employers*

**Partnership Plus Online Toolkit:** Provides detailed information on the benefits associated with the new Partnership Plus service delivery option. The toolkit can be found at: <http://partnershipplus.cessi.net/>.

**SSA Redbook:** Provides a summary guide about employment supports for individuals receiving benefits under the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. Available at: [www.ssa.gov/redbook](http://www.ssa.gov/redbook).

**Employment Network (EN) Revenue Estimator:** This online tool allows you to estimate Ticket revenue based on your answers to a few key questions. Visit the CESSI web site at: [www.cessi.net/en\\_estimator/](http://www.cessi.net/en_estimator/).

**Webinars:** Webinars on a variety of Ticket to Work topics are available at: [www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-cessi-webinars.cfm](http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-cessi-webinars.cfm).

## Ready to Apply?

The process is not competitive, but you must complete an application –“Request for Proposal (RFP)”. CESSI, SSA’s Program Manager for Recruitment and Outreach, can help you every step of the way.

**Step One** - Download the EN RFP at: [www.ssa.gov/work/enrfp.html](http://www.ssa.gov/work/enrfp.html).

**Step Two** - Contact the CESSI Account Manager assigned to your region or type of organization at: [www.cessi.net/ttw/contactus.htm](http://www.cessi.net/ttw/contactus.htm). CESSI Account Managers can help you complete the RFP and can provide a complimentary review of your application which can expedite the SSA approval process.

**Step Three** – Use the Ticket to Work resources mentioned here to assist you in the application process.

**EN Application Walk Through Teleconference:** Every other Wednesday at 2:00 EST. The teleconference is free and will walk you through the entire application, section by section, page by page. Call 877-743-8237 (V/TTY) or email [application@cessi.net](mailto:application@cessi.net) to get call-in information.

**SSA’s Employment Network Contract Team (ENCT):** The ENCT is also available to answer questions about the EN RFP, walk you through the EN contract award process, and help you complete your application. Contact SSA ENCT at 1-866-584-5180 (V) or 1-866-584-5181 (TTY), or e-mail [encontracts@ssa.gov](mailto:encontracts@ssa.gov).

## For More information on the Ticket to Work Program Basics

- Visit SSA’s Work Site at: [www.ssa.gov/work](http://www.ssa.gov/work).
- Visit CESSI’s Ticket to Work Recruitment & Outreach site at: [www.cessi.net/ttw](http://www.cessi.net/ttw).
- Visit Choose Work’s site at: <http://choosework.net/>.
- Visit the MAXIMUS Ticket Operations site at: [www.yourtickettowork.com](http://www.yourtickettowork.com).

Policy-related questions about the Ticket program should be submitted to: [TicketProgram@ssa.gov](mailto:TicketProgram@ssa.gov).



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## Assistance Continues After You Become an EN!

**MAXIMUS:** SSA's Operations Support Manager for the Ticket program offers a wide array of training and support services to help you get started, develop and implement your business model, and operate your Ticket program. Each state has an Account Manager assigned to assist the ENs in that state. Contact MAXIMUS at 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY), or visit: [www.yourtickettowork.com](http://www.yourtickettowork.com).

- **Ticket Training Tuesdays** are interactive training modules designed to assist ENs and State VR agencies with the fundamentals of working within the Ticket program. These toll-free conference calls occur every Tuesday at 1:00 pm EST and are open to anyone. Simply dial 1-800-480-6924. The participant code is "Ticket to Work."
- **Ticket Quick Start Resources** are available at: [http://www.yourtickettowork.com/training\\_2](http://www.yourtickettowork.com/training_2).
- **Other training resources**, including archived/recorded training, are available at: <http://www.yourtickettowork.com/training>.

**Beneficiary Outreach:** Working with local Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Projects, CESSI facilitates community Work Incentive Seminars (WISE) and other outreach activities involving national and community partners to inform beneficiaries about SSA Work Incentives and to connect them with ENs. For more information, contact CESSI at 1-877-7438237 (V/TTY), or visit: [www.cessi.net/WISE/](http://www.cessi.net/WISE/).

**National Employment Network Association:** The National Employment Network Association (NENA) was created by successful ENs to help others succeed in the Ticket to Work program, and to help them master the knowledge and procedures necessary to become a successful EN. For more information, go to: [www.nenaticket.com](http://www.nenaticket.com).

**CMS State Medicaid Director's Letter (1/28/10):** Clarifies that Ticket payments to ENs are not in conflict with Medicaid reimbursement. Available at: [http://www.cessi.net/ttw/CMS\\_Medicaid.html](http://www.cessi.net/ttw/CMS_Medicaid.html).

**DOL Guidance on Local Workforce Investment Boards and One-Stop Centers Becoming ENs (12/12/07):** Encourages LWIBs and One-Stop Centers to become ENs and clarifies that Ticket payments are not program income and will not replace existing funding sources. Available at: [http://www.cessi.net/ttw/EN/one\\_stops/onestop.asp#resources](http://www.cessi.net/ttw/EN/one_stops/onestop.asp#resources).

## Cool Tools

**Individualized Work Plan (IWP) Template and Tutorial:** Template and tutorial addresses all of the elements that must be included in an IWP to meet the requirements of the Ticket program. Visit the MAXIMUS web site at: [www.yourtickettowork.com/training\\_2](http://www.yourtickettowork.com/training_2).

**18-Month Prior Earnings Tool:** This tool can be used as you work with a beneficiary to assess his/her work history during the 18 months just prior to Ticket assignment. Visit the MAXIMUS web site at: [www.yourtickettowork.com/training\\_2](http://www.yourtickettowork.com/training_2).

**Archived Webinars:** Check out the Ticket to Work webinars archived by CESSI's Ticket partner, Cornell University. The following are examples of archived webinars located at: [www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-cessi-webinars.cfm](http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-cessi-webinars.cfm).

- **Ticket to Work Webinar: Increasing Employment Network Participation** (March 10, 2010): This webinar was designed to increase participation by ENs. It includes a tutorial on how to complete an Individual Work Plan (IWP).
- **WISE Webinar** (March 24, 2010): This webinar was designed to help beneficiaries stay in control of their benefits while enriching their lives through employment.
- **Ticket 201 for One-Stops** (September 28, 2009): This webinar was designed for One Stop staff, Workforce Investment Board members, and One-Stop Center Operators interested in gaining a deeper understanding of EN operations.

**Podcasts:** Prefer listening? Check out a Ticket podcast at: <http://www.softconference.com/dbsa/sessionDetail.asp?SID=168864>.

**Seed Money and Start Up Grant Information:** CESSI offers periodic training on grant seeking from foundations. Information regarding this training and online resources in this area can be found at: [http://www.cessi.net/ttw/EN\\_proposal/](http://www.cessi.net/ttw/EN_proposal/). Information about grants available through DOL, including grants for special populations that give priority to ENs is available at: <http://www.dol.gov/dol/grants/>.