

*Disability Rights Center (DRC) is the Protection & Advocacy System for people with disabilities in the state of Arkansas. Protection & Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) is authorized under Section 1150 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 122 of P.L. 106-170, the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999.*

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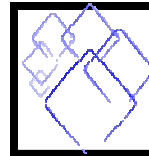
*"To passionately assist the lives of people with disabilities through education, empowerment and protection of their legal rights."*



**DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER**  
The Protection & Advocacy (P&A) System

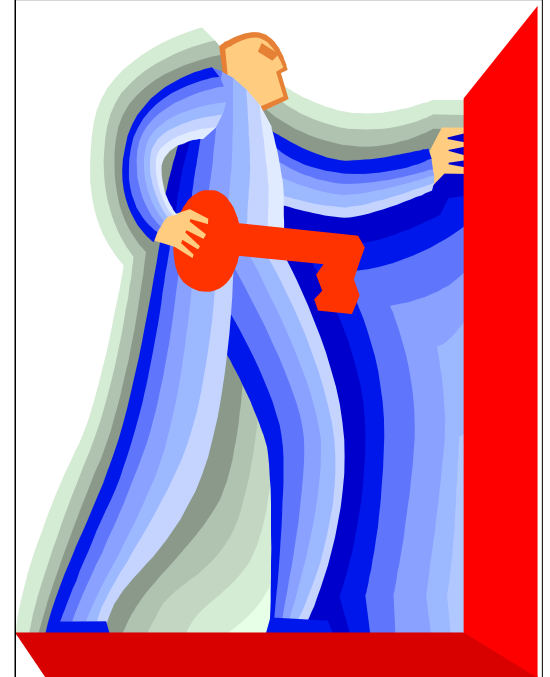
**DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER**  
The Protection & Advocacy (P&A)  
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**DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER**  
The Protection & Advocacy (P&A)

## Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Act of 1999



**Tel: (800) 482-1174 V/TTY**

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## Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of (TWWIIA) 1999

The Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program is the centerpiece of legislation signed by President Clinton on December 17, 1999, under the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999. It is a nationwide initiative designed to bring major positive changes to the lives of individuals with disabilities.

The Ticket to Work is a program designed by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to provide Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries with additional incentives and alternatives to retain or return to work.

### Eligibility

Most SSDI/SSI beneficiaries receiving cash benefits are between the ages of 18 – 64.

### Using the Ticket

When an individual receives a Ticket, it should look like this:

**Social Security Administration**

### Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency

Ticket Number: 123-45-6789TW

Claim Account Number: 987-65-4321 W

Issue Date:

*James Bannister*  
Commissioner of Social Security

This ticket is issued to you by the Social Security Administration under the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program. If you want help in returning to work or going to work for the first time, you may offer this ticket to an Employment Network of your choosing or take it to your State vocational/rehabilitation agency for services. If you choose an Employment Network and it agrees to take your ticket, or if you choose your State agency and you qualify for services, these providers can offer you services to help you go to work.

An Employment Network provides the services at no cost to you. The Social Security Administration will pay the Employment Network if you assign your ticket to it, and the Employment Network helps you go to work and complies with other requirements of the Program. An Employment Network serving under the Program has agreed to abide by the rules and regulations of the Program under the terms of its agreement with the Social Security Administration for providing services under the Program. Your State agency can tell you about its rules for getting services.

A beneficiary can “assign” the Ticket to either an Employment Network (EN) or State Rehabilitation Agency (VR).

An EN/VR is an agency authorized by SSA to provide employment support, vocational rehabilitation or other support services to beneficiaries using the Ticket.

The beneficiary along with an EN/VR counselor will mutually develop a plan for the beneficiary to return to work. While using the Ticket, the beneficiary will be protected from Medical Continuing Disability Reviews (CDR) as long as he/she exhibits timely progress towards achieving his/her employment goal.

Beneficiaries can re-assign their ticket as they deem appropriate as long as they continue to meet the eligibility for participation of the Ticket to Work program. There is a dispute resolution process available should a beneficiary become dissatisfied with services provided by the EN/VR. At any point in the Ticket process, a beneficiary and/or EN/VR may terminate their relationship with one another. In most cases, a beneficiary will be able to reassign his/her ticket to another EN/VR. A beneficiary can use the **Protection & Advocacy (P&A)** services at any time during the dispute resolution process.

### Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Program

The WIPA program is committed to providing persons receiving SSDI and/or SSI benefits with the information necessary to understand how employment may affect benefits. Benefits Specialists are available to provide beneficiaries with individualized services needed to assist in successful entry into the workforce. To contact a Benefits Specialist, call **1(888) 284-7521** or <http://>

[www.arsources.org/awin](http://www.arsources.org/awin) to have a Work Incentives Specialist contact you by e-mail.

### Extended Medicare Coverage Under TWWIIA (Ticket)

Section 202 of TWWIIA further extends Medicare coverage for most SSDI beneficiaries who work. Beneficiaries will get an additional 4 1/2 years coverage beyond the current limit (for a total of 8 1/2 years including the Trial Work Period (TWP).

### Medicaid Buy In

The Medicaid Buy In program allows working individuals with disabilities to “buy into” their state’s Medicaid program by paying a premium and/or cost share amount similar to the manner in which they would purchase health coverage on the private sector.



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