# Placeholder Slide

# Expanding Your Job Search with Ticket to Work

Ticket to Work WISE Work Incentive Seminar Event

May 22, 2024

LIVE Webinar Will Begin at 3 p.m. ET

A closeup of hands on the keyboard of a laptop. The laptop screen shows a web page with the words Job Search large, with a search bar.

# Cover Slide

**Expanding Your Job Search with Ticket to Work**

Ticket to Work WISE Work Incentive Seminar Event

A closeup of hands on the keyboard of a laptop. The laptop screen shows a web page with the words Job Search large, with a search bar.

# Slide 3

# WELCOME Accessing Today’s Webinar (Slide 1 of 3)

MANAGE YOUR AUDIO

You can manage your audio using the audio option at the top of your screen (it will look like a speaker).

In the dropdown menu choose **Select Speaker** to select the applicable audio option.

Screen shot of the Device Speaker dropdown menu with an arrow pointing to the option to Select Speaker.

# Slide 4

# WELCOME Accessing Today’s Webinar (Slide 2 of 3)

ATTENDEES WILL BE MUTED

Select an option for **How do you want to join the meeting’s audio?**

The **Device Speaker** will enable the sound to be broadcast through your computer.

Make sure your speakers are turned on or your headphones are plugged in.

A screenshot of the portion of the webinar screen where you can select how to join the meeting's audio. An arrow points to the option for Device Speaker/Microphone.

# Slide 5

# WELCOME Accessing Today’s Webinar (Slide 3 of 3)

TO LISTEN BY PHONE

If you do not have sound capabilities on your computer or prefer to listen by phone, dial:

Toll-free number: **1-800-832-0736**

Access code: **4189148#**

A screenshot of the portion of the webinar screen where you select How you want to join the meeting's audio. An arrow points to the Phone option. The Phone menu is expanded showing the options to either Receive a Call or Dial-in.

**Slide 6**

# WELCOME

# Adobe Connect Platform

A screenshot of the Adobe Connect webinar platform window.

# Slide 7

# WELCOME

# Adobe Connect Accessibility

ADOBE CONNECT ACCESSIBILITY USER GUIDE

Should you need assistance navigating Adobe Connect, use the Accessibility User Guide complete with a list of controls.

A screenshot of a list of keyboard shortcuts that can be used to navigate Adobe Connect.

# Slide 8

# WELCOME

# Real-Time Captioning

The provided real-time captions can be found in the **Captioning pod**, which appears below the slides.

You can show or hide the caption display, and you can change the text size and choose the text color combinations to best meet your vision requirements.

You can also access captioning online.

Screenshot of the Closed Captions dropdown menu in Adobe Connect. Options listed include hide captions, English, text size and color. English is selected, the text color is blue with a checkmark beside it on the right.

**Slide 9**

# WELCOME

# American Sign Language (ASL)

If you’re fluent in ASL and would like support during today’s webinar, use our ASL User Guide that provides instructions to connect with an interpreter through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Video Relay Service (VRS).

A man signing Thank You to the camera on the laptop in front of him.

# ****Slide 10****

# WELCOME

# Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Please use the **Q&A pod** to submit any questions you have during the webinar, and we will direct the questions accordingly during the Q&A portion.

If you are listening by phone and are not logged in to the webinar, you may also ask questions by emailing them to webinars@choosework.ssa.gov.

Screenshot of the Adobe Connect Q&A pod with a blue arrow pointing to the "type here" text box at the bottom of the Q&A pod.

# ****Slide 11****

# WELCOME

# Webinar Online Resources

Please use the **Web Links pod** to find the resources presented during today’s webinar.

If you are listening by phone and not logged in to the webinar, you may email webinars@choosework.ssa.gov for a list of available resources.

Screenshot showing an example of the Web Links pod in Adobe Connect.

# ****Slide 12****

# WELCOME

# Archived Events

**Please note**: This webinar is being recorded, and the archive recording will be available within 2 weeks through WISE on Demand.

A laptop computer with the screen showing the WISE on Demand webinar archive page.

# ****Slide 13****

# WELCOME

# Technical Assistance

If you experience any technical difficulties during the webinar, please use the **Q&A pod** to send a message, or you may email webinars@choosework.ssa.gov.

Two call center representatives at a long desk, both are looking at computers and talking to people on their headsets.

# Slide 14

# WELCOME

# Presenters

MODERATOR

**Jayme Pendergraft**

Ticket Program Team

PRESENTER

**Raymond A. Cebula, III, J.D.**

Cornell University

Headshot of Jayme Pendergraft. Headshot of Raymond A. Cebula.

# Slide 15

# Why Choose Work?

Earning a living through employment is not something everyone can do, but it may be right for you. Once people understand the many free services and supports available to them, they often find that the rewards far outweigh the risks.

Two construction workers looking at information on a clipboard while standing in a work site.

# Slide 16

# Webinar Overview

Today, we’ll answer questions related to:

Section 503 for Federal Contractors

Federal Employment – Schedule A

Apprenticeships

How the Ticket to Work Program Can Help

Who Can Help You Achieve Your Work Goals?

# Slide 17

# Section 503 For Federal Contractors

Picture of hands typing on a computer keyboard in the background.

# Slide 18

# What Is Section 503?

* Part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that helps create job opportunities for people with disabilities
* Prohibits federal contractors and subcontractors from discriminating against people with disabilities
* Requires affirmative action in recruiting, hiring, training, promoting, and retaining people with disabilities

# Slide 19

# What Are Section 503 Provisions

* Allow you to voluntarily self-identifyas a person with a disability before being offered a job.
* Require contractors to invite employees to self-identify as an individual with a disability every 5 years**.**
* Establish a 7% utilizationgoal for contractors hiring/retaining workers with disabilities.
	+ Contractors must develop a plan to address any issues preventing their success in meeting this goal.

# Slide 20

# Meet Angel

# A Ticket to Work Success Story

Headshot of Angel.

# Slide 21

# Angel’s Story

Angel suffered from neck and back injuries after two tours of duty with the U.S. Air Force. His willingness to identify as an individual with a disability was an asset during the hiring process.

With help from his Ticket Program service provider, he received free benefits counseling, information about Work Incentives, and reasonable accommodations to help him succeed.

Angel’s Success Story

Headshot of Angel.

# Slide 22

# A Positive Impact

“Being back at work has had a positive impact in so many areas of my life. I've been able to [show] my children the rewards that can go with perseverance and resilience. The job has helped me build confidence, maintain good mental health, and regain a sense of accomplishment… all vital for the next chapter in our lives.”

Headshot of Angel.

# Slide 23

# Federal Employment: Schedule A

Picture of hands typing on a computer keyboard in the background.

# Slide 24

**What are the Benefits of Working for the Federal Government?**

* Federal employees serve in a variety of jobs, earn good salaries, receive 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 much more.
* There are a number of ways that people can apply for a job in the federal government. For individuals with disabilities, one of those paths is the **Schedule A Hiring Authority.**

A collage of people in different careers.

# Slide 25

# 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.**

# Slide 26

# What Are Schedule A Requirements?

* To be eligible for Schedule A, you must provide a "proof of a disability" letter stating that you have an intellectual disability, severe physical disability, or psychiatric disability.
* You can ask a variety of professionals or agency staff members to write this letter for you.
	+ Your doctor
	+ A licensed medical professional
	+ A licensed vocational rehabilitation specialist
	+ Any federal, state, or local agency that issues
	or provides disability benefits

Sample Schedule A Letters

A doctor handing a patient a letter.

# Slide 27

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

* Visit USAJOBS.
* 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: (the open job icon: a blue circle with a person in a wheelchair.)
	+ 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.

Screenshot of the USAJOBS search filter where you select the option for Individuals with disabilities.

**Slide 28**

**What Is a Selective Placement Program Coordinator?**

* Selective Placement Program Coordinators (SPPC) help agencies recruit, hire, and accommodate people with disabilities.
* If you are a person with a disability and you’ve found a specific position that may be the right fit for you, contact the agency using the SPPC Directory.
* Source: U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

A person talking on a headset while looking at their computer and smiling.

# Slide 29

**What Are My Next Steps?**

* If you’re interested in Schedule A, obtain a letter to document your disability.
* Review and update your resume with
skills, abilities, and references relevant to the position.
* Contact the agency’s SPPC.

A person at home who is on the phone and using her laptop.

# Slide 30

# Meet Jesus: A Ticket to Work Success Story

Picture of hands typing on a computer keyboard in the background.

# Slide 31

# Jesus’s Story

Jesus was born with spina bifida and spent most of his childhood using a wheelchair or crutches. With help from his Ticket Program Employment Network, he received benefits counseling and Work Incentives information, developed an Individual Work Plan (IWP), and received resume writing and job lead support to transition in his career.

Jesus qualified for Schedule A, allowing his employer to avoid the traditional – and often lengthy – competitive hiring process.

Jesus’s Success Story

Headshot of Jesus.

# Slide 32

# Achieving Independence

“Work has helped me expand my social circles and my support network as well. I am very happy knowing that I can be independent, achieve the goals I set for myself, and I’m more confident every day. The Ticket to Work Program… the help I received through it… helped me find my way to work at my own pace, and I’m grateful for that.”

Headshot of Jesus.

# Slide 33

# Apprenticeships

Picture of hands typing on a computer keyboard in the background.

# Slide 34

# What Is an Apprenticeship?

* 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 from doing the job.

A man in wheelchair learns leathermaking with the assistance of another man in a leatherworker's workshop.

# Slide 35

**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 advancein your chosen career.

Two people sitting next to each other at a desk in an office, looking at and discussing the papers they are holding.

# Slide 36

# What Are the Educational Benefits of Apprenticeships?

Through an apprenticeship, you may be able to:

* Gain a variety of job-specific and transferable skills.
* Use apprenticeship as a pathway to additional education or college.
* Earn college credit or even a bachelor’s degree.
* Earn a credential upon completion.

A woman with a prosthetic arm works at a table with others in a fashion design class.

# Slide 37

**Finding an Apprenticeship**

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

Laptop computer with apprenticeship.gov's apprenticeship finder showing on the screen.

# Slide 38

# Q & A

Three white question marks on a grey background.

# Slide 39

**Putting It All Together: How Social Security's Ticket to Work Program Can Help**

Picture of hands typing on a computer keyboard in the background.

# Slide 40

**Social Security Disability Programs**

Social Security Disability
Insurance
(SSDI)

Supplemental Security
Income
(SSI)

SSDI in a circle with the words, “Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)” in a box below on the left. SSI in a circle with the words, “Supplemental Security Income (SSI)” in a box below on the right.

# Slide 41

**Sign Up for a My Social Security Account**

Your personal *my* **Social Security** account through Social Security gives you secure access to information based on your earnings history and interactive tools tailored to you.

With a *my* **Social Security** account, you can access your earnings history and benefits information, request a replacement Social Security card, get a proof of income letter, estimate and apply for benefits.

Screenshot showing how to create a my Social Security account. To create an account, you must be at least 18 years of age, have a Social Security number, have a valid U.S. mailing address, and have an email address.

# Slide 42

**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

Social Security Administration Ticket to Work logo.

# Slide 43

# 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

Social Security Administration Ticket to Work logo.

# Slide 44

# Who Can Help You Achieve Your Work Goals?

Picture of hands typing on a computer keyboard in the background.

# Slide 45

# Find Support to Achieve Your Work Goals

As you think about trying work and possibly changing careers, you may have questions and need support.

* Connecting with a Ticket Program service provider can help you develop achievable goals and establish steps to find and maintain employment.
* Ticket Program service providers can also help you identify the type of job or career you might enjoy and any transferrable skills you may have.

# Slide 46

**Ticket Program Service Providers**

Through the Ticket Program, you’ll have access to a variety of Ticket Program Service Providers, including:

EN icon. Underneath it says, “Employment Networks (EN). VR icon. Underneath it says, "State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agencies.

# Slide 47

**Employment Network**

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.

The EN icon next to a photo of two women sitting at a table in an office, talking, while looking at papers. A photo of two men shaking hands over a desk in an office next to the WF icon.

# Slide 48

**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
* Find a position that may be the right fit
* Write and review your resume
* Prepare for interviews
* Request reasonable accommodations
* Receive benefits counseling

A man, sitting at his kitchen table, smiling and waving as he looks at his laptop screen.

# Slide 49

**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

The VR icon next to a photo of hands typing on a laptop keyboard. To the bottom left of the last photo is a photo of people in a training session, sitting at long tables, with a presenter in the front of the room, who is calling on one person who has their hand raised. Bottom right box states “Some states have separate VR agencies that serve individuals who are blind and visually impaired.”

# Slide 50

**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.

A man, sitting at a desk in his home, taking notes while in a virtual meeting on his laptop.

# Slide 51

# Ticket Program Service Providers: Expanding Your Job Search

Your Ticket Program service provider can help you:

* Identify potential opportunities based on your job interests and skills.
* Compile the materials you need for the job application process.
* Request reasonable accommodations that may help you be more successful once you're on the job.

Two people sitting next to each other at a table in an office. One person is explaining something to the other person as they look at a booklet.

**Slide 5****2
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 Find Help page. Search by:

* ZIP code
* Services offered
* Disability type
* Languages spoken
* Provider type

(EN, Workforce EN, VR or PABSS)

A woman using a laptop on a kitchen counter. She is also talking on her cell phone.

# Slide 53

# Q & A

Three white question marks on a grey background.

# Slide 54

# How to Connect

**Please remember to take our webinar survey!**

**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.

Closeup of a man's hands typing on a cell phone.

# Slide 55

**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)**

Call center representative wearing a headset and smiling while looking at a computer.

# Slide 56

**Join Us for Our Next WISE Webinar!**

How Will Work Affect My Social Security Disability Benefits?

**June 26, 2024**

3 pm – 4:30 pm ET

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

Ticket to Work WISE Work Incentive Seminar Event logo