



Helping You Today
So You Succeed Tomorrow



Understanding Ticket to Work: How to Help Your Clients and the People You Serve

Date:
Wednesday,
April 24, 2019

Time:
3–4:30 P.M.
ET



Photo by Peter Wolfanger

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<http://bit.ly/adobe-accessibility>

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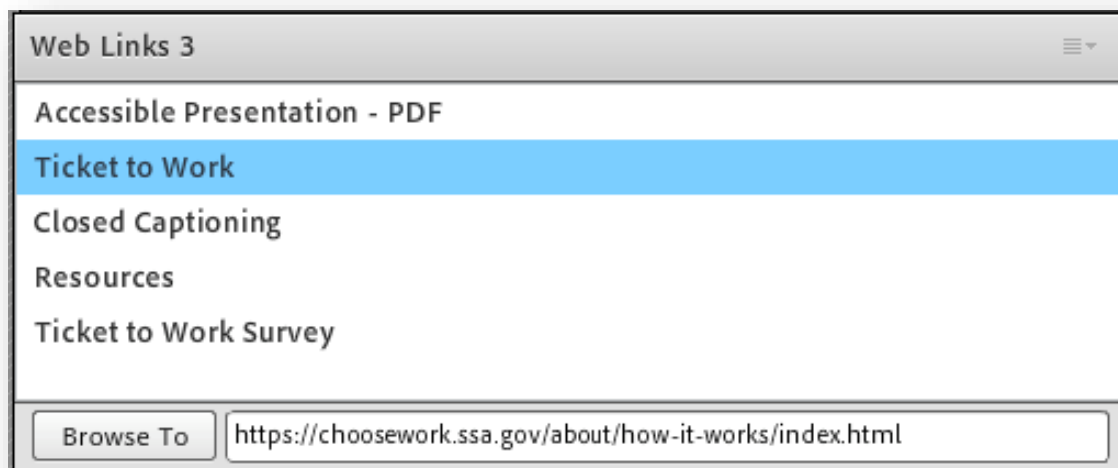
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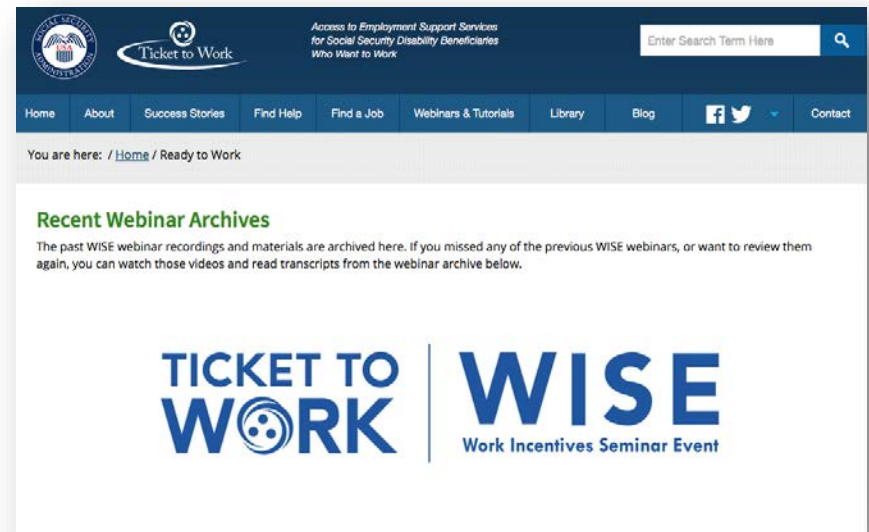
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Archived Events

Please note: This webinar is being recorded, and the archive will be available within 2 weeks on the Choose Work website at http://bit.ly/WISE_OnDemand.



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Presenters

Welcome and Introductions

Moderator: Stacey Plizga, Ticket Program Moderator

Presenters: Raymond Cebula, Yang-Tan Institute on
Employment and Disability, Cornell University
Jayme Pendergraft, Ticket Program Manager
Greg Bell, Ticket Program Manager

Welcome!

Today we'll discuss and answer questions related to:

- Understanding Social Security's Ticket to Work Program
- Connecting to Ticket to Work Program Service Providers
- Sharing Information About the Ticket to Work Program
- Becoming an Employment Network



Social Security Disability Benefits



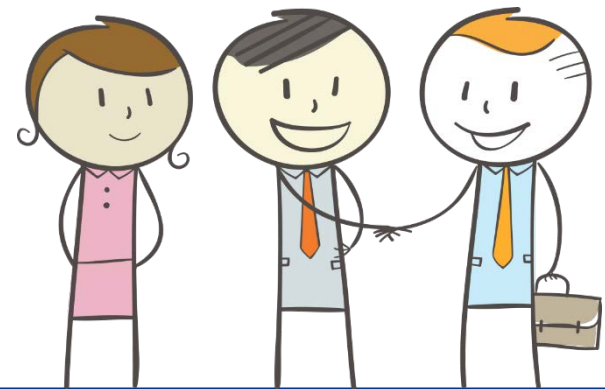
Connecting with Social Security Disability Beneficiaries



Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)



Supplemental Security Income (SSI)



Ticket to Work



What is the Ticket Program?

Social Security's Ticket to Work (Ticket) program:

- Is Social Security's national employment program
- Supports career development for people with disabilities who want to work
- Is for Social Security disability beneficiaries ages 18 through 64
- Is free and voluntary



How It Works

Within the Ticket to Work community, Social Security disability beneficiaries who are eligible for the Ticket program are often called **Ticketholders**.

Ticketholders:

- Choose an employment service provider and “assign” their Ticket
- Collaborate with their service provider to create a plan for employment that describes services and supports needed to meet their work goals

Goals for all Ticketholders:

- Find work and reduce (and when possible, eliminate) their reliance on Social Security disability benefits by replacing them with earnings from work
- Over time, earn more, save more, and gain greater financial stability and security

Social Security Work Incentives



Social Security Work Incentives

Social Security offers more than 20 Work Incentives, which makes it easier for Social Security disability beneficiaries to work and still receive medical benefits and, in some cases, cash payments from Social Security.



Work Incentives: Expedited Reinstatement

(Slide 1 of 2)

Expedited Reinstatement (EXR) offers a **fast track to benefits reinstatement** if beneficiaries worked and earned their way off benefits

- Beneficiaries may make the request **within 5 years** from the month that their benefits stopped due to work and earnings
- While Social Security reviews a beneficiaries' reinstatement requests, beneficiaries are:
 - Eligible to receive **temporary benefits** for up to 6 months, unless Social Security determines they are no longer disabled
 - Eligible for **Medicare** and **Medicaid**



Work Incentives: Expedited Reinstatement

(Slide 2 of 2)

To qualify for EXR, beneficiaries must:

- Have been previously eligible for SSI or SSDI
- Be or become unable to work at a level that Social Security considers “substantial gainful activity”
 - This must be due to their medical condition
 - Their medical impairment is the same as before or is related to it



Work Incentives: Subsidies and Special Conditions (Slide 1 of 2)

Subsidy

A subsidy is a support provided by a Ticketholder's employer that may result in the beneficiary receiving more pay than the salary or wage for your job.

Special Conditions

Special conditions refers to support and on-the-job assistance provided by an employer or another organization such as a State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency. Because of the support, a beneficiary may receive more pay than your salary or wage for your job.

Subsidies or special conditions do not affect SSI payments.

Work Incentives: Subsidies and Special Conditions (Slide 2 of 2)

A subsidy or special condition may exist if a beneficiary:

- Receives more supervision than other workers doing the same or similar job for the same pay; or
- Has fewer or simpler tasks to complete than other workers doing the same job for the same pay; or
- Is given additional or longer paid breaks than other workers doing the same job for the same pay; or
- Has a job coach or mentor who helps them perform some of their work

Learn More About Work Incentives

- Learn more on Choose Work's website:
choosework.ssa.gov/about/work-incentives
- Review Social Security's Red Book for more information:
www.ssa.gov/redbook
- Read the Choose Work Blog, including Work Incentives Wednesdays blog series:
choosework.ssa.gov/blog

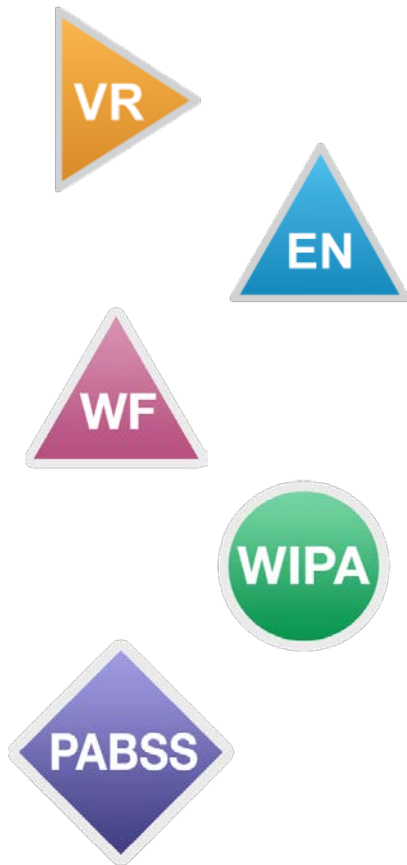


Ticket Program Service Providers

**Connecting the people you work with
to the supports they need**



Introduction to Ticket to Work Service Providers



- State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agencies
- Employment Networks (EN)
- Workforce ENs
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Projects
- Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) Organizations

State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agency

A State VR agency furnishes 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.

- Some states have separate VR agencies that serve individuals who are blind and visually impaired



Employment Networks (ENs)

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

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



Supports and Services that May Be Provided

- Career planning or counseling
- Job search and job placement assistance
- State VR agencies may provide training programs
- Special programs for veterans and youth in transition
- Ongoing employment support
- Assistance with job accommodations
- Benefits and Work Incentives counseling



Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Projects

WIPA Projects:

- Are staffed by Community Work Incentive Coordinators (CWICs) who provide free, in-depth counseling about working and earning money and about how earnings will affect benefits, including Social Security and other benefits that Ticketholders may receive
- Work with beneficiaries who:
 - Are working
 - Have a job offer pending
 - Are actively interviewing for jobs
 - Have had an interview in the past 30 days or have an interview scheduled in the next 2 weeks
 - Are veterans
 - Are age 14 to 25, not necessarily actively pursuing work



Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)

PABSS organizations help Social Security disability beneficiaries who have disability-related employment problems.

- PABSS organizations and advocates provide:
 - Legal support
 - Advocacy
 - Information to assist beneficiaries with removing disability-related barriers to employment with employers, Social Security, ENs, State VR agencies, WIPA projects, and others



Find Help Tool

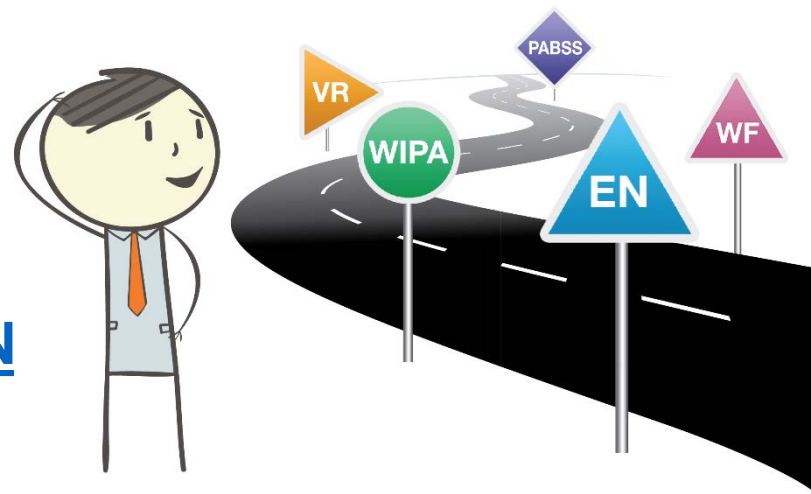
- Allows users to search for service providers
choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp
- Provides a directory of all Ticket program service providers, including:
 - State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agencies
 - Employment Networks (EN)
 - Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Projects
 - Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) Organizations



Choosing a Service Provider

Many of the people you serve may be interested in connecting with a service provider. You can provide these resources to help them decide:

- Finding an EN
<http://bit.ly/Finding-an-EN>
- Choosing the Right EN
<http://bit.ly/Choosing-the-right-EN>



Questions?



Spread the Word About Ticket to Work



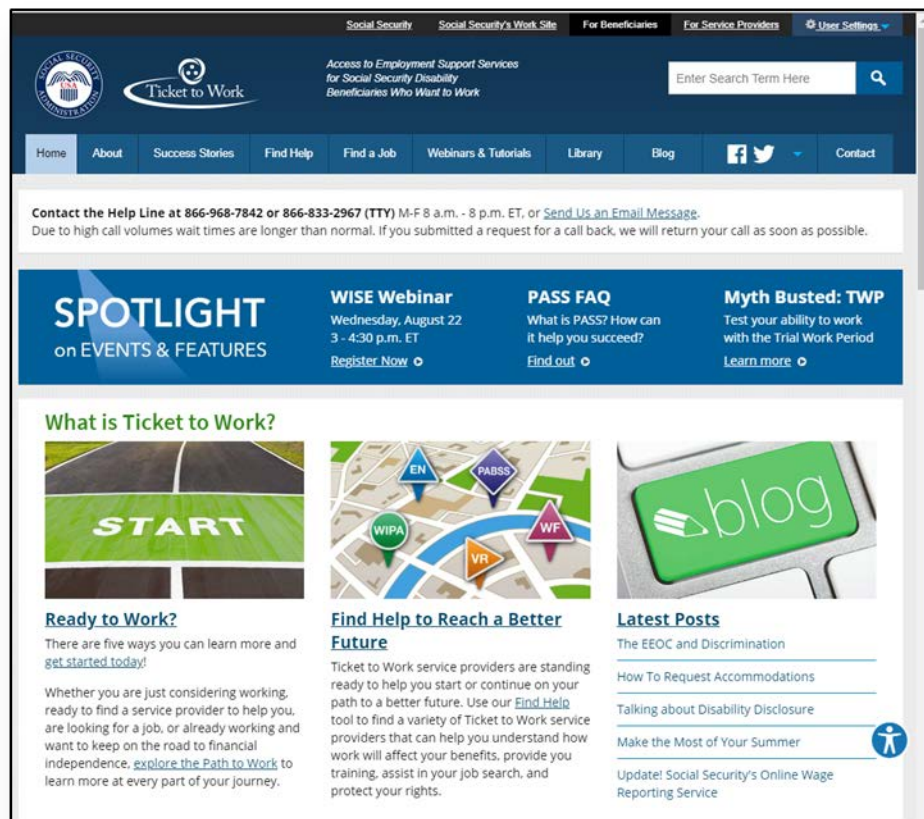
Connecting with Ticket to Work

Beneficiaries can connect with Ticket to Work to find information and resources in two ways:

- **Call the Ticket to Work Help Line**
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET
1-866-968-7842
1-866-833-2967 (TTY)
- **Visit Ticket to Work's Choose Work Website**
choosework.ssa.gov



The Choose Work Website



Visit choosework.ssa.gov to find:

- Blog posts
- Success stories
- WISE webinars
- Resources and information

Share Information on Your Website

Do you have an employment section on your website?

Link to the Choose Work website from your site to direct eligible beneficiaries to the information and resources they're looking for.



Social Security's Ticket to Work (Ticket) program supports career development for people ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security disability benefits. Learn more about this free and voluntary program, connect with a Ticket program service provider, and find the supports and services you need on the path to work. Visit <https://choosework.ssa.gov> to learn more. You can also call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 866-968-7842 or 868-833-2967 (TTY), Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET

Work Incentives Seminar Events (WISE)

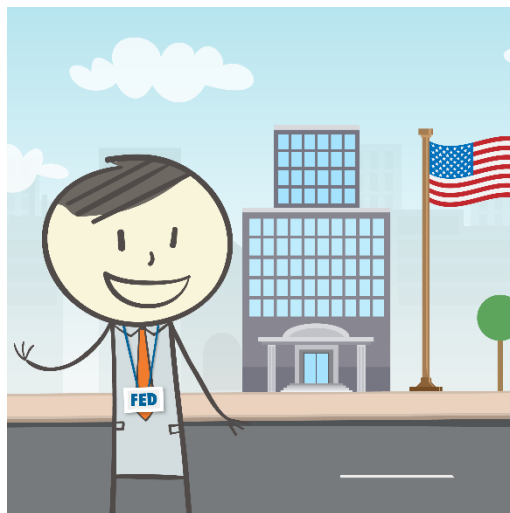
- WISE webinars are **free** educational online sessions held monthly for beneficiaries, service providers, and community partners
- Share WISE webinar details with your social media or newsletter audience
- Attend the webinars to discover resources available for the people you serve
- Subscribe to get updates: <http://bit.ly/WISEsubscribe>



WISE Webinars Anytime

The WISE webinar archives offer access to information and resources on demand:

<http://bit.ly/WISEOnDemand>



Choose Work! Blog

Weekly posts share information and advice about looking for work, Social Security Work Incentives, transitioning to work, and financial independence.

- Subscribe to receive new blog posts directly to your inbox:
choosework.ssa.gov/blog/subscribe
- Share blog posts with your email and social media audiences
- Volunteer to be a guest blogger by emailing:
socialmedia@choosework.ssa.gov



Ticket to Work Success Stories

- Ticket to Work Success Stories are **real stories** about actual Social Security disability beneficiaries
choosework.ssa.gov/success-stories
- Share on social media or in your newsletter to show positive outcomes from the Ticket program
- If you've worked with a Ticketholder who's achieved financial independence through work, submit the details of their story and how you helped them on their path
 - All success stories are reviewed and approved by Social Security. If selected, the Ticket Program Manager will work with you to develop the story for publication
 - Submit your stories at: stories@choosework.ssa.gov

Success Stories: Laura

After experiencing cancer and limb loss as a teenager, Laura was able to use a Work Incentive called Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) to reach her goal of becoming a Certified Orthotist and Prosthetist to help others who have experienced limb loss.

choosework.ssa.gov/library/laura-success-story



Success Stories: Walter



Walter, who has a developmental disability, was determined to find work at Cornell University.

After high school, Walter connected with a Ticket program EN who helped him:

- Develop soft skills for the workplace
- Find work at Cornell
- Succeed on the path to greater financial security and stability

choosework.ssa.gov/library/walter-success-story

Frequently Asked Questions and Fact Sheets

Choose Work publishes resources to help beneficiaries learn about aspects of the Ticket program or Work Incentives, including:

- Planning Your Employment Goals with the Ticket to Work Program
- Work Incentives for People Who Are Blind
- Ticket to Work for America's Veterans

choosework.ssa.gov/library



Social Media



Connect With Us on Social Media!



www.facebook.com/choosework

www.twitter.com/chooseworkssa

www.youtube.com/choosework

www.linkedin.com/company/ticket-to-work

Social Media

Our Facebook and Twitter profiles feature Ticket program updates and information, as well as resources from other organizations that may help the people you work with.



Get Social

- Like and share posts from Choose Work's social media accounts
- Share resources from the Choose Work website
- Suggest disability employment and related content or guest blog ideas via email:

socialmedia@choosework.ssa.gov

Gross and Net Income: What's the Difference?

Apr 4, 2019

Have you recently started working and earning income? Congratulations! You have probably heard of gross income and net income before, but now that you're working, it is important to know the difference. Today, we review each one and share how both affect your path to financial independence through work.



Gross vs. net income

Gross income includes all of your income before any deductions are taken. For example, if you are working in a job in which you're paid an hourly wage, your gross income is the hourly rate you're paid multiplied by the number of hours you've worked during a pay period.

For instance, if your pay period is one week and you worked 20 hours at \$12.00 per hour: $\$12.00 \times 20 = \240.00 . That means that your gross pay for that pay period is \$240.

However, you may notice that this is not the final amount of your paycheck. That's because your paycheck will reflect your net income, or the amount of money once deductions — like taxes, employee benefits, or retirement plan contributions — have been considered. Taxes and other deductions vary by state and city, and other deductions may vary by employer. Your paystub should include an indication of what deductions have been taken and how much that deduction is. It's a good idea to review this information — whether it's by yourself or with someone else — to make sure your

Join the Team: Become an Employment Network



More About Employment Networks (ENs)

- An EN is an organization or group of organizations that provides, coordinates, and delivers employment, vocational rehabilitation, and other support services to assist Social Security disability beneficiaries to enter, maintain, and advance in employment
- ENs can be for-profit and non-profit organizations and service providers, state and local government agencies, or a group of providers working together as a single EN



Benefits of Becoming an EN

- The Ticket program can easily integrate into your existing business model
- It is an outcome-based program
 - Payments are:
 - Based on a beneficiary achieving milestones and outcomes
 - Associated with work and earnings a beneficiary achieves after their ticket is assigned to an EN
- The program helps beneficiaries reduce reliance on Social Security benefits and become more financially independent through work
- Ticket payment revenue can be used at the EN's discretion

5 Steps to Become an EN

1. Submit the EN Request for Application (RFA) to Social Security, which will then be reviewed

If awarded:

2. Apply for, and receive, a favorable Suitability Determination
3. Create a mySSA Account with Extra Security
4. Complete and submit Security Awareness Contractor Personnel Security Certification
5. Complete mandatory training within 60 days after becoming an EN

Learn More

Frequently Asked Questions:

yourtickettowork.ssa.gov/employment-networks/becoming-an-en-faqs.html

Qualifications for becoming an EN:

yourtickettowork.ssa.gov/employment-networks/en-qualifications.html

Download the RFA at:

www.ssa.gov/work/enrfa

Questions about becoming an EN:

ENOperations@yourtickettowork.ssa.gov

Questions?



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Subscribe to learn about the latest WISE webinar, or find out when we have a new blog post available.

- Subscribe for WISE emails:
<http://bit.ly/WISEsubscribe>
- Subscribe for Ticket program updates:
<http://bit.ly/SubscribeCW>



Choose Work!
blog

Attend a Career Fair in August

Read today's [blog post](#) to learn about national and local opportunities to attend a career fair in August.

Whether in person or online, career fairs are an excellent way to meet employers and job search. Each month, many career fairs for veterans, individuals with disabilities and other job seekers take place across the country.

 SHARE

For More Information

Call the Ticket to Work Help Line:

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

Visit: choosework.ssa.gov

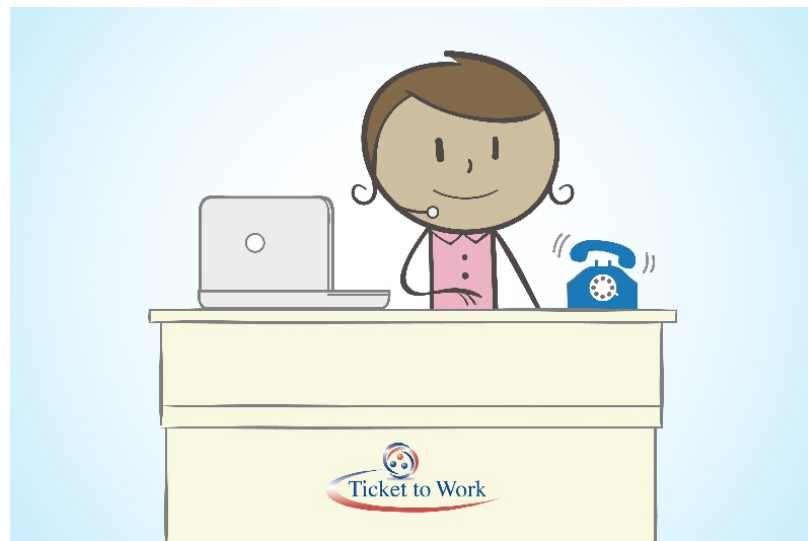
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 Follow us on LinkedIn: [@ticket-to-work](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ticket-to-work)



Join Us for Our Next WISE Webinar!



Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2019

Time: 3 – 4:30 p.m. ET

Register online: choosework.ssa.gov/wise
or call 1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)

Tell Us What You Think!

Please remember to take our webinar survey!

A link will pop up after the webinar, or visit:
choosework.ssa.gov/surveys/wise

