

Ticket to Work, Timely Progress & Other Benefit Things

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Ticket to Work

Program Manager



Learning Objectives



Explain
the Ticket
to Work
Program



Recognize
Good Ticket
Candidates



Define
Partnership
Plus



Understand
EN Services
and How to
Find Them



Describe
Timely
Progress and
Medical
Review
Protection



Identify
Ticket to
Work
Outreach
Efforts

What is Ticket to Work?

Social Security Program



Free Service

Voluntary

Self-Sufficiency

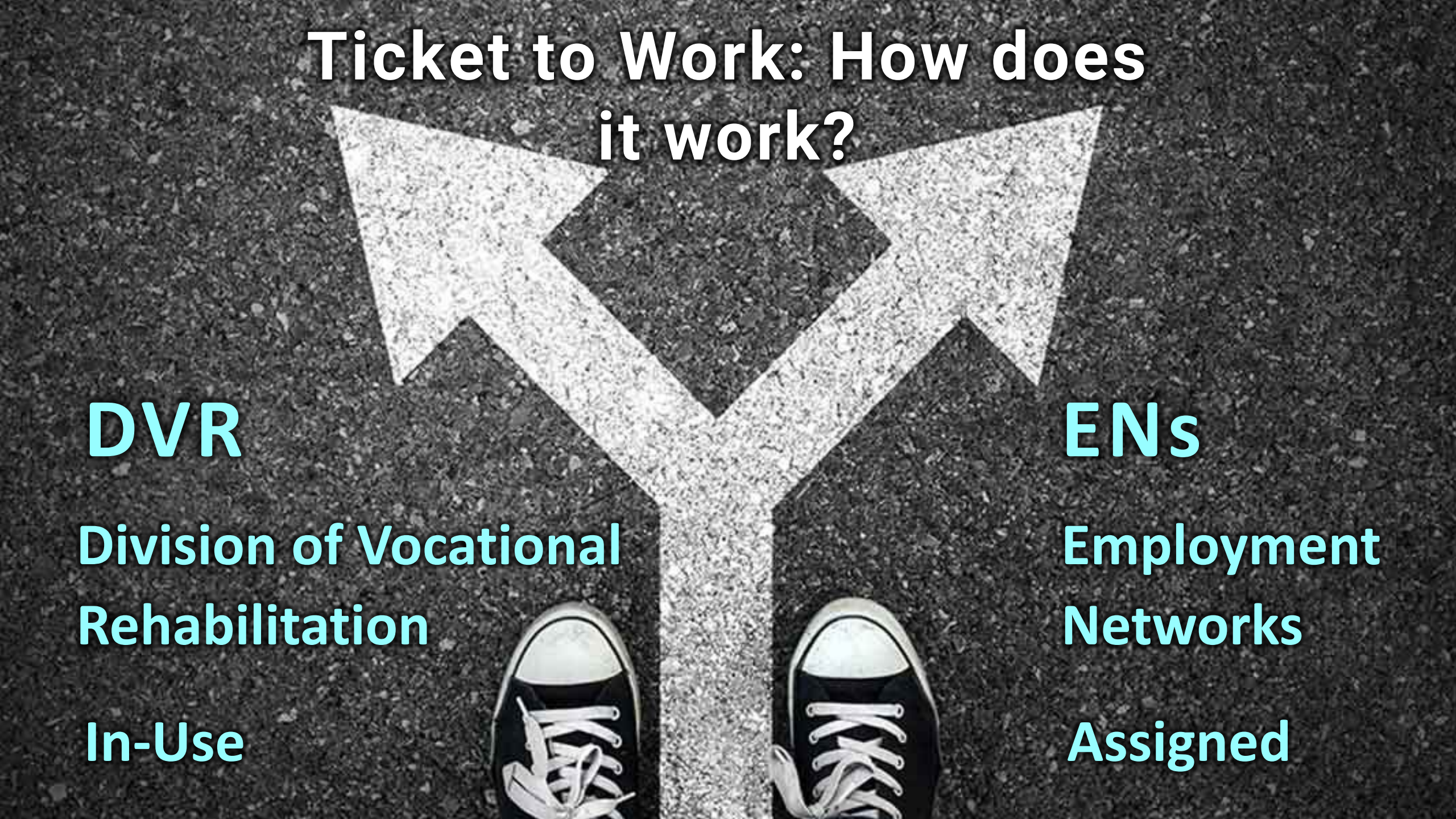


Who is Eligible?

- Social Security disability beneficiaries (SSDI and/or SSI)
- Ages 18-64*
- Disability benefits as an adult
- “Ticket holders”

*For individuals who are getting SSDI, if they assign their ticket while they are 64, before they turn 65, they can use their ticket until they reach their full retirement age.

Ticket to Work: How does it work?



DVR

**Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation**

In-Use

ENs

**Employment
Networks**

Assigned

What are ENs?

- Public or private organizations
- Free employment services (3 to 5 years)
- Some job centers operate as Workforce ENs

ENs vary in

- Services Offered
- Service Delivery (virtual, in-person or both)
- Quality of Services
- Number of tickets assigned (0- 10,000+)
- Populations Served
- Areas Served (local, statewide, multi-state and national)



Ticket Assignability

Ticket “Assignability” = ability to use with EN

In Current Pay
Status
for SSDI or SSI

OR

Within 90 days
of DVR case
closure

EN unassignment

From DVR to ENs

Partnership Plus (P+) Agreements

Transition from DVR to an EN

Best Practice = conversation while DVR Case is open

Handoff = Ticket Assigned to a Partnership Plus EN
within 90 days of DVR closure



Finding ENs



Choosework.ssa.gov

Find Help

Option 2: *Direct Search*

- Enter ZIP Code
- Update Results
- Filter by additional criteria (services provided, populations served, in-person or virtual)
- Factors for Success: Benefits Counseling and Partnership Plus



**Call Ticket to
Work Help Line
1-866-968-7842**

Tell Everybody

Work incentives = same

Additional options for services with ENs

Medical review protection **IF** making Timely Progress

What is Timely Progress?

- Educational and earnings goals for each 12-month participation period
- Clock Starts: Ticket Assigned or In-Use
- Clock Stops: Periods of Unassignment

Timely Progress Requirements

Timely Progress Requirements

1st

After 12
months

Complete 3 months of work at Trial Work Level (TWL)

Complete a GED or high school diploma, OR
Complete 60% of a full-time course load for an academic year in a college or technical/trade/vocational training program

Complete a combination of this work and education requirement

2nd

13-24
months

Complete 6 months of work at Trial Work Level (TWL)

Complete 75% of a full-time course load for an academic year in a college or technical/trade/vocational program

Complete a combination of this work and education requirement

3rd

25-36
months

Complete 9 months of work at Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) level

Complete an additional full-time academic year of study, OR Complete a 2-year or 4-year college program, OR Complete a 2-year technical/trade/vocational training program

Complete a combination of this work and education requirement

POMS – DI
55025.025 Timely
Progress
Requirements for
Ticketholders

Timely Progress Requirements (continued)

4th
37-60
months

Complete 9 months of work at Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) level

Complete an additional full-time academic year of study

Complete a combination of this work and education requirement

5th
49-60
months

Complete 6 months of work at Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) level with no SSDI and/or SSI cash benefits

Complete an additional full-time academic year of study, OR Complete a 4-year degree program

Complete a combination of this work and education requirement

6th
61-72
months

Complete 6 months of work at Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) level with no SSDI and/or SSI cash benefits

Complete a 4-year degree program

7th
73-84
months

Complete 6 months of work at Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) level with no SSDI and/or SSI cash benefits

**POMS –DI
55025.025** Timely
Progress
Requirements for
Ticketholders

What's up with Timely Progress Reviews?



- Moratorium on TPRs since 2015
- Retain status based on last TPR
- New participants still expected to progress

What's the EN's Role in TPR?

TPR guidance to Ticketholders

Review TPR status in provider portal

Identify issues

Pursue re-entry when appropriate



Not Making Timely Progress

- Lose medical review protection
- Ticket status updated (no med protection)
- Can still work with an EN or VR
- Medical review on regularly scheduled review cycle
- If medical cessation occurs, potential for Section 301
 - POMS - DI 14505.010 – Policy for Section 301

New Ticketholders



No past TPR-
medical review
protection
effective ticket
assignment date
(or in-use status
with DVR)

Need to make
Timely Progress
to retain

Medical Review Considerations

- Timing of medical review initiation and ticket assignment
- Work activity in the first 24 months of entitlement + MIE
- 90-day extension period of CDR protection between ticket assignments



Ticket Program Requirements

1

Engagement requirements = two-way communication

2

“Dormant” tickets

3

Appropriateness for program



New Tickets

EXR cases

- Provisional payments
- New ticket when approved
- Initial Reinstatement Period (IRP)
- New set of work incentives after 24 payments

Reapplication cases

- New ticket when approved
- New set of work incentives right away

With approval, first ticket terminates, and portal will show TW02 (with a mailed date).

Marketing & Outreach

EN Outreach

Marketing program

- EN outreach to potential ticket holders on behalf of SSA (calls, texts, emails, mailings)

Disengaged

- Unassignment notices from SSA

Social Security Outreach

- “Good news” letter – upon award and at regular intervals (1, 3, 5 years)

Marketing & Outreach (continued)

DVR Closure Letter

If ticket eligible, Wisconsin Partnership Plus EN List

Questions?

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