# Cover Slide

**Ticket to Work: Healthcare and the Path to Employment**

**Date:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021

**Time:** 3 – 4:30 P.M. ET

Social Security Administration Ticket to Work logo, Social Security Administration logo, and text that reads “Helping You Today So You Succeed Tomorrow.”

Ben shaking hands with a healthcare professional. SSA Ticket to Work logo. Produced at U.S. taxpayer expense.

# Slide 2

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

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

Screen shot of the "Connect My Audio" feature in Adobe Connect with an arrow pointing to the telephone icon.

Screen shot of the "Disconnect My Phone" feature in Adobe Connect with an arrow pointing to the telephone icon.

# Slide 3

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

All attendees will be muted, and we encourage you to attend by choosing “**listen only**” from the audio menu. This will enable the sound to be broadcast through your computer, so please make sure your **speakers are turned on or your headphones are plugged in**.

Screen shot of the "Join Audio Conference" dialog box for Adobe Connect with an arrow pointing to "Listen Only."

# Slide 4

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

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#**

# Slide 5

# Webinar Accessibility

# Slide 6

# Adobe Connect Platform

Screen shot of the Adobe Connect platform, displaying the presentation pod, captioning pod, Q&A pod, and web links pod.

# Slide 7

# Adobe Connect Accessibility User Guide

Should you need assistance navigating Adobe Connect, the link below directs you to an Accessibility User Guide complete with a list of controls.

[**http://bit.ly/adobe-accessibility**](http://bit.ly/adobe-accessibility)

Screen shot of a list of keyboard shortcuts that can be used to navigate Adobe Connect.

# Slide 8

# Captioning

* Real-time captioning is provided during this webinar
* The captions can be found in the **Captioning pod**, which appears below the slides
* You can also access captioning online: [**http://bit.ly/captions-april2021**](http://bit.ly/captions-april2021)

# ****Slide 9****

# American Sign Language (ASL)

* If you’re fluent in ASL and would like support during today’s webinar, follow the link below that provides instructions to connect with an interpreter through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Video Relay Service (VRS)
* ASL User Guide: [**http://bit.ly/ASL-guide**](http://bit.ly/ASL-guide)

Graphic of a computer screen with the Ticket to Work logo, WISE logo, and two hands signing.

# ****Slide 10****

# Questions and Answers (Q&A)

* For 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 not logged in to the webinar, you may ask questions by emailing them to [**webinars@choosework.ssa.gov**](mailto:webinars@choosework.ssa.gov)

Screen shot of the Q&A pod where one enters a question, with an arrow pointing to the pod.

Ben with a thought bubble that has a question mark.

# ****Slide 11****

# Webinar Online Resources

* Please use the **Web Links pod** to direct you to 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**](mailto:webinars@choosework.ssa.gov) for a list of available resources

Screen shot of the Web Links pod in Adobe Connect.

# ****Slide 12****

# 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**](http://bit.ly/WISE_OnDemand).

Screen shot of the Ticket to Work "WISE On Demand" web page.

# Slide 13

# 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**](mailto:webinars@choosework.ssa.gov).

Ben sitting at a desk with a laptop computer open.

# Slide 14

# Presenters

**Welcome and Introductions**

Moderator: Sarah Hyland, WISE Moderator

Presenter: Raymond A. Cebula, III, J.D., Cornell University

# Slide 15

# Welcome!

Thank you for joining us! Today, we’ll discuss how Social Security’s Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program can help you and answer questions related to:

* Work Incentives
* The impact that choosing to work may have on your   
  Medicaid and Medicare benefits
* Benefits counseling and service providers

Ben with a thought bubble that has a question mark.

# Slide 16

# Objectives

At the close of today’s webinar, you will:

* Better understand your Social Security disability benefits
* Understand how the Ticket Program can help you if you choose to work
* Recognize the myths and facts surrounding work and its impact on Medicare and Medicaid
* Be able to access additional resources related to the Ticket Program, Medicare, and Medicaid

Ben with a laptop computer.

# Slide 17

# Ticket to Work Program: Support on Your Path to Work

# Slide 18

# Social Security Disability Benefits Program

**Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)**

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**

SSDI and SSI logos. Graphic of three individuals standing in a group. Two of the individuals are shaking hands.

# Slide 19

# Sign Up for a *my* Social Security Account Today

* Your personal *my* Social Security account at [**SSA.gov/myaccount**](https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/)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, and more.

Screen shot of 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 20

# Starting the Journey

Only you can decide if work is the **right choice for you**.

Ben looking at a road sign with arrows pointing in opposite directions.

# Slide 21

# 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.

SSDI, SSI, and Social Security Administration Ticket to Work logos.

# Slide 22

# What Is the Ticket to Work Program? (Slide 1 of 2)

Ticket to Work:

* Is a free and **voluntary** Social Security program
* Offers **career development** for people age 18 through 64 who receive Social Security disability benefits and want to work

SSDI, SSI, and Social Security Administration Ticket to Work logos.

# Slide 23

# What Is the Ticket to Work Program? (Slide 2 of 2)

Ticket to Work connects you with **free employment services** to help you:

* Decide if working is right for you
* Prepare for work
* Find a job
* Succeed at work

SSDI, SSI, and Social Security Administration Ticket to Work logos.

# Slide 24

# Work Incentives and the Ticket Program

Social Security has more than 20 Work Incentives that are available for people depending on the type of benefit they receive. Work Incentives make it possible for you to explore work while still receiving benefits. They are designed to help you succeed!

* Keep your Medicaid/Medicare
* Have access to individualized services and supports
* Keep some or all benefit payments as you  
  transition to work

Ben holding a sign that says "Work Incentives."

# Slide 25

# Social Security’s Red Book

* The Red Book serves as a general reference guide about employment-related supports and provisions available for people who receive SSDI and/or SSI
* It includes:
  + Resources for people interested in finding or returning to work
  + Information about Social Security Work Incentives
  + Additional information about healthcare for people with disabilities
  + Resources to help transition-aged youth with their efforts to navigate the path toward adult life
* The Red Book can be found at: [**www.ssa.gov/redbook**](http://www.ssa.gov/redbook)

# Slide 26

# Ticket to Work Help Line

Social Security’s Ticket to Work Program offers a Help Line to support you on your journey to financial independence.

**Call the Ticket to Work Help Line:**

**Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 8:00 pm ET**

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

Ben with a thought bubble containing work?

# Slide 27

# Healthcare and the Path to Employment

# Slide 28

# True or False?

**If I go to work, I will automatically lose my Medicare or Medicaid.**

Ben holding two signs that read "True" and "False."

# Slide 29

# False

As long as you are receiving a benefit payment in any amount, you will keep your Medicare or Medicaid.

If your benefit payments stop due to work and you remain medically disabled, you may be able to keep your Medicare or Medicaid through:

* Work Incentives
* Buy-in Programs (in many states)

Ben holding a "False" sign.

# Slide 30

# Medicaid and Work Incentives

# Slide 31

# Medicaid and Work Incentives

**Medicaid Work Incentives**

* Medicaid While Working – 1619(b)
* Medicaid Buy-in Program

Ben shaking hands with another individual holding a briefcase.

# Slide 32

# Medicaid While Working or 1619(b) (Slide 1 of 3)

If you receive SSI, you may qualify for continued Medicaid coverage when your benefit payments stops if you:

1. Have been **eligible for an SSI benefit payment** for at least 1 month
2. Continue to meet **Social Security’s definition** of disability
3. Still meet all other non-disability **SSI requirements**
4. Need Medicaid benefits to **continue to work**
5. Have gross earnings that are **below your state’s threshold of eligibility**

# Slide 33

# Medicaid While Working or 1619(b) (Slide 2 of 3)

* The “threshold amount” is the measure that Social Security uses to decide whether your earnings are high enough to replace your SSI and Medicaid benefits
* Your threshold amount is based on:
  + The amount of earnings that would cause your SSI cash payments to stop in your state; and
  + The average annual per capita Medicaid expenditure   
    for your state
* See updated state thresholds amounts at: [**http://bit.ly/ssa-thresholds**](http://bit.ly/ssa-thresholds)

# Slide 34

# Medicaid While Working or 1619(b) (Slide 3 of 3)

* If your gross earnings are higher than the threshold amount for your state, Social Security may determine an individual threshold if you have:
  + Impairment-Related Work Expenses
  + Blind Work Expenses
  + A Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS)
  + Publicly-funded attendant or personal care
  + Medical expenses above the state per capita amount

# Slide 35

# Medicaid Buy-in Program

Your state may allow you to buy Medicaid if you are disabled and no longer entitled to free Medicaid because you returned to work. In this case, many states allow you to purchase in a **Medicaid** **Buy-in Program**.

* You may qualify if you:
* Meet the definition of **“disabled”** under the Social Security Act
* Would be **eligible for SSI payments** if not for your earnings
* SSDI beneficiaries may also be eligible depending  
  on their income and other criteria

Ben with a laptop computer.

# Slide 36

# Medicaid and the Ticket Program Resources

**Medicaid While Working – 1619(b)**

* For more information on Medicaid While Working, visit: [**http://bit.ly/1619-b**](http://bit.ly/1619-b)

**Medicaid Buy-in Program**

* Find your state Medicaid agency at: [**http://bit.ly/state-medicaid**](http://bit.ly/state-medicaid)

# Slide 37

# Medicare and Work Incentives

# Slide 38

# Medicare Work Incentives and Programs

**Medicare**

* Extended Period of Medicare Coverage
* Medicare for People with Disabilities Who Work

Ben shaking hands with another individual holding a briefcase.

# Slide 39

# Extended Period of Medicare Coverage

Most SSDI beneficiaries whose benefits stop due to work will continue to receive, after their Trial Work Period, at least 93 consecutive months of:

* Hospital Insurance (Part A)
* Supplemental Medical Insurance (Part B), if enrolled
* Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D), if enrolled

To qualify:

* You must **already have Medicare** and be working at **Substantial Gainful Activity**
* You **cannot** be medically improved

# Slide 40

# Medicare for People with Disabilities Who Work (Slide 1 of 2)

After premium-free Medicare coverage ends due to work, you can buy continued Medicare coverage as long as you remain medically disabled.

You are eligible to buy Medicare coverage if:

* You are not yet age 65
* You continue to have a disabling impairment
* Your Medicare stopped due to work

Graphic of a checklist and pencil.

# Slide 41

# Medicare for People with Disabilities Who Work (Slide 2 of 2)

* For more information on enrollment periods or to make an appointment to enroll, please call **Social Security** at 1-800-772-1213 or 1-800-325-0778 (TTY) to find your local office
* For help with paying premiums, please call **Medicare** at 1-800-MEDICARE or 1-877-486-2048 (TTY)
  + You will need your Medicare number
  + Be prepared to tell the representative what state you live in

# Slide 42

# Questions?

Ben with a thought bubble that has a question mark.

# Slide 43

# Benefits Counseling

# Slide 44

# Benefits Counseling

If you’re a beneficiary, you have access to free benefits counseling to help you understand how work will affect federal and state benefits, including:

* Medicare and Medicaid
* Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
* Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
* Housing Assistance
* Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/food stamps

# Slide 45

# Benefits Counseling Service Providers

There are 3 types of service providers that offer access to benefits counseling:

* Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) projects
* State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies
* Employment Networks (EN)

Graphic of the WIPA, VR, and EN logos.

# Slide 46

# Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Projects

WIPA projects are staffed by Community Work Incentives Coordinators (CWIC) who:

* Provide **free benefits counseling** to eligible Social Security disability beneficiaries about how work and earnings will affect your SSDI, SSI, Medicare or Medicaid, and other public benefits
* Help you understand **Social Security Work Incentives** and how they apply to you
* Explain the potential **benefits of employment** and **dispel myths** about working
* Help you decide if the services and supports from the Ticket Program are **right for you**

WIPA logo.

# Slide 47

# Whom Do WIPA Projects Serve?

The Ticket to Work Help Line will refer you to a WIPA project if you receive SSDI, SSDI-related   
Medicare, SSI, or SSI-related Medicaid and you:

* Are currently **working** or **self-employed**
* Have a job offer **pending**
* Are actively **interviewing** for jobs
  + Had an interview in the past 30 days
  + Have a job interview scheduled in the next 2 weeks
* Are **age 14–25**, even in the earliest stages of considering work

WIPA logo.

# Slide 48

# 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 can offer benefits counseling and may also be able to help you with:

* **Vocational rehabilitation**
* **Training and education**

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

VR logo.

# Slide 49

# Employment Network (EN)

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.

EN logo.

# Slide 50

# ENs and State VR Agencies: Additional Services and Supports

In addition to benefits counseling, ENs and state VR agencies can provide:

* 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

VR logo.

EN logo.

# Slide 51

# Learn More About Service Providers

To better understand the different types of service providers and what they offer, visit **Ticket to Work: Meet Your Employment Team** at [**http://bit.ly/ttw-team**](http://bit.ly/ttw-team).

* WIPA projects
* State VR agencies
* ENs
* WF ENs
* Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)

Ticket to Work service providers: EN, WIPA, PABSS, VR, and WF.

# Slide 52

# Find Help to Achieve Your Work Goals (Slide 1 of 2)

The Find Help tool offers 2 ways to search for service providers that fit your needs.

**Guided Search:**

* Asks a series of questions to help you determine your readiness for the program and provides a list of service providers that are a fit for you

Screen shot of the Guided Search option on the Choose Work website.

[**choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/)

# Slide 53

# Find Help to Achieve Your Work Goals (Slide 2 of 2)

**Direct Search:**

* View a list of service providers serving your ZIP code
* Search based on the type of provider and whether services are provided in person or virtually
* Results can be narrowed further by services offered, disabilities served, or other specialized expertise

Screen shot of the Direct Search option on the Choose Work website.

[**choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/)

# Slide 54

# Choosing a Service Provider

Find helpful tips and questions to ask when selecting a Ticket service provider:

* Finding an EN and Assigning Your Ticket:   
  [**http://bit.ly/finding-en**](http://bit.ly/finding-en)
* Choosing the Right EN for You:   
  [**http://bit.ly/choosing-en**](http://bit.ly/choosing-en)

Ben looking at a road with various signs for EN, WIPA, VR, WF, and PABSS.

# Slide 55

# Success Story: Amy

* Growing up with a developmental disability, Amy knew she wanted to work but wasn’t sure what her options were.
* She received services from her State VR agency to find work and, later, worked with an EN that continues to help her develop her career and receive benefits counseling.
* She learned that she was eligible for Medicaid While Working (1619(b)), which allowed her to focus on her work goals without worrying about losing her healthcare coverage.

Photo of Amy in a public garden

[**http://bit.ly/amy-success**](http://bit.ly/amy-success)

# Slide 56

# Questions?

Ben with a thought bubble that has a question mark.

# Slide 57

# How to Get Started

Social Security’s Ticket to Work Program has a variety of service providers and other resources ready to help you get started!

**Call the Ticket to Work Help Line:**

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

**Visit:** [**https://choosework.ssa.gov/**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/)

**Connect:**

Visit [**https://choosework.ssa.gov/contact/index.html**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/contact/index.html) to find us on social media and subscribe to blog and email updates!

Image of a track with a starting line.

# Slide 58

# Opt-In to Receive Text Messages

Photo of a person typing on a smart phone.

* Get advice and encouragement, and read stories about people who achieved financial independence with help from the Ticket to Work Program.
* If you’re interested in receiving text messages from the Ticket Program, please text **TICKET** to **474747**. Standard messaging rates may apply.

# Slide 59

# Join Us for Our Next WISE Webinar!

Ticket to Work, Work Incentives Seminar Event (WISE) logo.

**Working from Home with Ticket to Work**

**Date: Wednesday, May 26, 2021**

**Time: 3 ‒ 4:30 PM ET**

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

# Slide 60

# Tell Us What You Think!

Please remember to take our webinar survey!

A link will pop up after the webinar, or visit: [**https://choosework.ssa.gov/surveys/wise**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/surveys/wise).

Ben holding sign that reads "The End."