# Cover Slide

# Expanding Your Job Search with Ticket to Work

**Date:** Wednesday, May 25, 2022

**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 in a hard hat at a construction site, Ben in a chef’s hat in a kitchen, and Ben using a pointer on a sign that reads, “Company growth.”

# 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

Ben sitting at a desk with a laptop computer open.

# 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

If you need assistance navigating Adobe Connect, use the [**Accessibility User Guide**](http://bit.ly/adobe-accessibility) complete with a list of controls.

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

You can also access [**captioning online**](https://www.captionedtext.com/client/event.aspx?CustomerID=3492&EventID=5093390).

Screen shot of the Adobe Connect Closed Captions menu.

# ****Slide 9****

# American Sign Language (ASL)

* If you’re fluent in **ASL** and would like support during today’s webinar, use our [**ASL** **User** **Guide**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/library/wise-asl-guide) that provides instructions to connect with an interpreter through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Video Relay Service (VRS)**.**

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 also 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 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**](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 through [**WISE on Demand**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/webinars-tutorials/webinar-archives/).

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: Derek Shields, 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:

* Social Security’s Ticket Program
* Your Employment Team
* Section 503 for Federal Contractors
* Federal Employment – Schedule A
* Apprenticeships

Ben with a thought bubble that has a question mark.

# Slide 16

# Objectives

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

* Better understand the **Ticket Program**
* Know your **employment team**
* Understand how **Section 503** opens opportunities for you
* Identify how **Schedule A** can help you in your job search
* Know if an **apprenticeship** is right for you
* Become familiar with additional **job search resources**

Ben holding a gold star.

# Slide 17

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

Ben sitting at a desk with a laptop computer open.

# Slide 18

# Social Security Disability Benefits Programs

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

# 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 20

# Sign Up for a my Social Security Account

* Your personal *my* Social Security account through [**Social Security**](https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/)gives you secure access to information based on your earnings history and interactive tools tailored to you.
* With a personal *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 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)

The Ticket to Work 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

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

# Slide 23

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

The Ticket to Work Program 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

# How Does the Ticket Program Work?

If you decide to participate, you may choose to receive services from authorized Ticket to Work service providers like **Employment Networks** (EN) or your **State Vocational Rehabilitation** (VR) **agency**.

Service providers' logos: EN, WF, and VR.

# Slide 25

# Employment Networks (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.

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

Service providers' logos: EN and WF.

# Slide 26

# 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 can include helping you to:

* Identify your **work goals**
* Write and review your **resume**
* Prepare for **interviews**
* Request **reasonable accommodations**
* Receive **benefits counseling**

Ben shaking hands with another individual holding a briefcase.

# Slide 27

# 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.

Service provider logo: VR.

# Slide 28

# What are Work Incentives?

Work Incentives are special Social Security rules and programs that allow you to:

* Receive **training** for new skills
* Improve the **skills** you already have
* Pursue your **education**
* Try **different jobs**
* Start a **career**
* Gain **confidence**

Ben holding a sign that reads, “Work Incentives.”

# Slide 29

# Section 503 and Federal Contractors

Ben sitting at a desk with a laptop computer open.

# Slide 30

# What Is Section 503?

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

Ben standing next to a flipboard that reads, “Rehabilitation Act of 1973.”

# Slide 31

# What Are Section 503 Provisions?

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

# Slide 32

# Angel’s Story (Slide 1 of 2)

*A Ticket to Work Success Story*

Angel suffered from neck and back injuries after 2 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**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/library/angel-success-story)

# Slide 33

# Angel’s Story (Slide 2 of 2)

"Being back at work has had a positive impact in so many areas of my life," Angel reflects. "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.“

**Angel**

Photograph of Angel.

# Slide 34

# Federal Employment: Schedule A

Ben sitting at a desk with a laptop computer open.

# Slide 35

# 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 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 36

# 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 get this letter from:
  + 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**](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/disability-employment/getting-a-job/)

# Slide 37

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

* Visit [**USAJOBS**](https://www.usajobs.gov/).
* In the job announcement, look for the **This job is open to** section. When a job is open to **Individuals with a disability**, you’ll see this icon:
  + There may be other groups listed that can also 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.

Icon of a person in a wheelchair.

# Slide 38

# 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 interested in a job opportunity, contact the agency using the [**SPPC Directory**](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/disability-employment/selective-placement-program-coordinator-directory/).

# Slide 39

# What Are My Next Steps?

* If you’re interested in Schedule A, get a **letter** to document your disability
* Update your resume with skills, abilities, and references
* Contact the agency’s SPPC
* If you’d like additional assistance, contact the Ticket to Work Help Line at **1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)** to get a list of service providers who can help you, or visit the [**Find Help Tool**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/)**.**

Ben handing a letter to a person behind a desk.

# Slide 40

# Jesus’s Story (Slide 1 of 2)

*A Ticket to Work Success 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 long and competitive hiring process.

[**Jesus’s Success Story**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/library/jesus-success-story)

# Slide 41

# Jesus’s Story (Slide 2 of 2)

“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.”

**Jesus**

Photograph of Jesus sitting at a desk.

# Slide 42

# Apprenticeships

Ben sitting at a desk with a laptop computer open.

# Slide 43

# What is an Apprenticeship?

* Is a training program combining work with learning and training, both on and off the job
* Combines the development of **theoretical knowledge** regarding a particular occupation or range of occupations with **practical experience** gained from doing the job

Ben in a hard hat at a construction site.

# Slide 44

# What Is the Value of an Apprenticeship?

* Apprenticeships offer a **way into an industry**
* They are **real jobs** with **paid salaries**
* An experienced worker will **mentor** you
* Opportunities may exist to **advance** in your chosen career

Ben in a chef’s hat in a kitchen.

# Slide 45

# What Are the Educational Benefits of Apprenticeships?

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

Ben using a pointer to point at a flipboard that reads, “Company Growth.”

# Slide 46

# Questions?

Ben with a thought bubble that has a question mark.

# Slide 47

# Taking the Next Step on the Path to Employment

Ben sitting at a desk with a laptop computer open.

# Slide 48

# Job Posting and Apprenticeship Resources

* [**American Job Centers (AJCs)**](https://www.careeronestop.org/)
* [**USA Jobs**](https://www.usajobs.gov/)
* [**Federal Agency Websites**](https://www.usa.gov/federal-agencies)
* [**US DOL**](https://www.apprenticeship.gov/)
* [**Apprenticeship Job Finder**](https://www.apprenticeship.gov/apprenticeship-job-finder)

# Slide 49

# Need Help Finding a Job?

* Check out our [**Find A Job**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/find-a-job/)page!
* Get started on your job search and connect with a Ticket Program service provider along the way!
* Connect with resources that can help you advance your employment journey.

Photograph of an individual sitting at a table working at an open laptop.

# Slide 50

# How Do You Find a Service Provider?

* If you’re ready to find a service provider, visit the   
  [**Find Help**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/)page.
* Search by:
  + ZIP code
  + Services offered
  + Disability type
  + Languages spoken
  + Provider type (EN, Workforce EN, VR, WIPA, or PABSS)
* Or call the **Ticket to Work Help Line** for a list of service providers at **1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)** Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 8:00 pm ET]

Road map graphic with service providers' logos: EN, PABSS, WIPA, VR, and WF.

# Slide 51

# Questions?

Ben with a thought bubble that has a question mark.

# Slide 52

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

**Connect:**

Visit the [**Choose Work! Contact page**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/contact/) to find us on social media and subscribe to blog and email updates.

Picture of the word “Start” on a highway.

# Slide 53

# Opt-In to Receive Text Messages

* Get advice, 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.

Photo of a man texting on a cell phone.

# Slide 54

# Ticket to Work Mail

* If you need to contact Social Security’s Ticket to Work Program, managed by the Social Security Administration’s Office of Employment Support, we ask that you do so **electronically** instead of by postal mail.
* Our email address is [**support@choosework.ssa.gov**](mailto:support@choosework.ssa.gov). Remember, **do not include personally identifiable information** in your email!
* You may also contact the Ticket to Work Help Line at **1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)**Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET.

Photo of a man sitting at table using a laptop.

# Slide 55

# Join Us for Our Next WISE Webinar!

**Ticket to Work for People with a Mental Illness**

**Date: Wednesday, June 22, 2022**

**Time: 3 ‒ 4:30 PM ET**

[**Register online**](https://choosework.ssa.gov/wise)

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

Ticket to Work and WISE logos.

# Slide 56

# Affordable Connectivity Program

* A Federal Communications Commission benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.
* Provides eligible households with a discount on broadband service and connected devices.
* Provides a discount of up to $30 per month toward the internet for eligible households and up to $75 per month for homes on qualifying Tribal lands.

**Find out if you're eligible for the program and how to apply:**

[**FCC.gov/ACP**](http://www.fcc.gov/acp)

Photo of three girls laughing with the slogan, “***Affordable Connectivity Program*** *Helping Households Get Access to Broadband*.”

# Slide 57

# Tell Us What You Think!

Please remember to take our webinar survey!

A link will pop up after the webinar or visit the [**WISE Webinar Survey**](file:///C:\Users\egrado\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\TUUTTGJ9\choosework.ssa.gov\surveys\wise).

Ben holding a sign that says, “The End.”