

## What is Vocational Rehabilitation?

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is a federal-state program that works with people who have physical or mental disabilities to prepare for, gain or retain employment. VR is committed to helping people with disabilities find meaningful careers.

## Who May be Eligible for VR Services?

You may be eligible for VR services if you have a goal to become employed and meet the following criteria:

- Your physical or mental disability interferes with your ability to become employed.
- VR's help is necessary for you to prepare for, gain or retain employment.

If you receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for your disability, you are presumed eligible for VR services if you intend to become employed.

## What is Financial Participation?

VR will look at the income of eligible individuals to determine if they will be required to share in the cost of vocational rehabilitation services. Some individuals or services may be exempt, and a person will not be required to pay toward the cost of these services.

## What is Order of Selection?

Under order of selection, all eligible individuals are placed on a prioritized waiting list based on the significance of their disability. Federal law requires that individuals with the most significant disabilities be served first.



## General Information

## Ticket to Work

Ticket to Work is a Social Security Administration (SSA) program available to Floridians. For those who qualify for social security benefits, tickets will be issued and may be taken to Employment Network (EN) participants, such as VR. These participants offer access to employment and rehabilitation services necessary to help a person secure and retain employment. This program is voluntary.



## How Do I Get My Ticket?

The Ticket to Work Program is available to most Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities who meet certain criteria. SSA notifies those who are eligible to participate in the Ticket Program by issuing them a Ticket. Those receiving a Ticket are referred to as Ticket-holders. More than 11 million Ticket-holders are eligible to participate in this nationwide program and many are already working.

## Keep Your Medicaid or Medicare

While you participate in the Ticket to Work Program, you will keep your cash benefits and medical coverage as you transition to the work place.

In addition, Social Security has other “work incentives” that serve as a bridge between disability benefits and financial independence. You may receive:

- Cash benefits while you work
- Medicare or Medicaid while you work
- Help with any extra work expenses resulting from your disability

## Examples of VR Services:

- Medical and Psychological Assessment
- Vocational Evaluation and Planning
- Career Counseling and Guidance
- Training and Education After High School
- Job-Site Assessment & Accommodations
- Job Placement
- Job Coaching
- On-the-Job Training
- Supported Employment
- Hearing Aids/Assistive Technology
- Time-Limited Medical and/or Psychological Treatment

**For More Information,  
Contact:**

2002 Old Saint Augustine Road, Bldg. A  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-4862  
(850) 245-3399 (Voice and TTY)  
(800) 451-4327 (Voice and TTY)  
[www.Rehabworks.org](http://www.Rehabworks.org)  
[www.FLJobConnections.com](http://www.FLJobConnections.com)



An equal opportunity employer/program. It is against the law for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) of the Florida Department of Education, as a recipient of Federal financial assistance, to discriminate against any individual in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief.

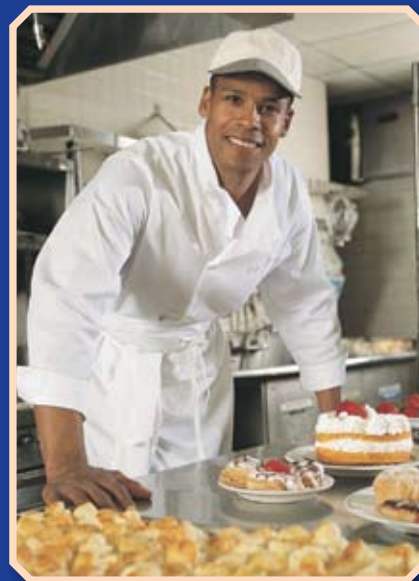
The application process used by VR to determine eligibility for services, any subsequent services, and the entire VR process are subject to these non-discrimination requirements. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment or via the Florida Relay Service at 711.

*The Department of Education Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is a proud partner in Florida's Next Generation Strategic Plan for education.*

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## Ticket to Work: Myth vs Fact

- **MYTH**...If I participate in the Ticket to Work program while trying to get a job, I'll lose my Medicare or Medicaid benefits.
- **FACT**...Social Security provides special "work incentives" to help people with disabilities become financially independent. These include keeping your cash benefits and medical coverage while you transition to the work place. And if you find that you cannot work, it is easy to start your payments again.



- **MYTH**...If I am unhappy with an employment network, I will be forced to stay with the network once I give them my ticket.
- **FACT**...When you assign your ticket to a particular employment network, you cannot work with another one at the same time. However, if it's decided that you and the organization cannot work together, you can take back your ticket and reassign it to another employment network. In addition, if you are working with VR, you can use your ticket with another employment network once you have completed your services with us.



# Your Ticket to Work



**Vocational Rehabilitation**  
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION