

Ticket to Work FAQ

What is Ticket to Work?

The Ticket to Work (Ticket) program is a free and voluntary program that can help Social Security beneficiaries go to work, get a good job that may lead to a career, and become financially independent, all while they keep their Medicare or Medicaid. Individuals who receive Social Security benefits because of a disability and are age 18 through 64 should qualify for the program.

Who qualifies for Ticket to Work?

Clients that are between the ages of 18-64 years old that receive SSI, SSDI or a combination of both qualify for TTW. Clients have to be receiving benefits to qualify for the program. If the client is near the age of 64 or 64 discussion of the client's goals in advance would be important to ensure goodness of fit. If the client is actively in Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services VALLEYLIFE **cannot** hold their ticket as VR automatically holds the clients ticket. If the client successfully closes from VR and is still receiving benefits they can then come into the program with VALLEYLIFE.

What is the Ticket to Work process?

Any interested individual can call VALLEYLIFE to check if they are eligible for services. Just state you have a client or are the client interested in the TTW program. VALLEYLIFE staff will need the client's Social Security number, full name and date of birth. The client will then be looked up in the Social Security portal to ensure client is eligible for the Ticket program. Once ticket status has been confirmed the client can be scheduled for an intake appointment with a VALLEYLIFE Employment Specialist. Intakes are typically done in office and take about 1 hour to complete. An individual work plan (IWP) will be created for the client and VALLEYLIFE intake paperwork will be signed at time of intake.

What happens after the intake?

Once an intake is completed, Employment Specialist will assign the client's ticket through the Social Security portal the same day. The client will receive paperwork in the mail from Social Security stating they have been enrolled into the Ticket to Work program. The client can begin job development and placement services immediately from Ticket to Work Employment Specialist. Job coaching services can be provided to clients already working. If the client is already working with another Employment Specialist at a different agency VALLEYLIFE can manage their Ticket without providing the job development services.

What a client needs to know before enrolling in the program:

The Ticket to Work program is for individuals that are either working or looking for work. The client can seek part time or full time work although it is encouraged for clients to attempt to work over the trial work limit which will put their gross monthly income at or over \$910.00 per month. It is important clients to know that their benefits will be affected based on if they have worked in the past 5 years and what benefits they are receiving (SSI, SSDI or a combination of both). If a client has specific questions about their benefits and are unsure if the program is a good fit for them, they should contact a Ticket to Work Employment Specialist directly to answer questions.

If you want to assign your ticket please contact us by phone at 602-216-6393 or by email:

tickettowork@valleylifeaz.org