

MICHIGAN REHABILITATION SERVICES AND THE TICKET TO WORK PROGRAM

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity



The Ticket to Work program, offered by the Social Security Administration (SSA), offers you choices for services you need to become and stay employed.

- You may choose to place your ticket with MRS or assign your ticket to an Employment Network (public or private group that contracts with Social Security) to obtain vocational rehabilitation services, employment services, or other support services necessary to achieve employment. At MRS, a professional rehabilitation counselor can help you with your future job goal.
- The ticket program is voluntary. It is your choice to participate in this program offered by the SSA.
- If you choose to receive services from MRS, you will be considered participating in the ticket program after completing an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) agreed upon by both you and your MRS counselor. You do not need a ticket document in order to participate in the program.
- Your ticket cannot be placed with MRS and an Employment Network at the same time. If you assign your ticket to an Employment Network while working with MRS, you will be notified by your MRS counselor about the next steps.
- SSA requires that all disability beneficiaries undergo medical reviews. Your review will be delayed if you meet SSA progress goals. A list of Social Security progress goals of work and earnings are on the back of this sheet.
- If you are not able to meet SSA's progress goals, you will be required to undergo your regularly scheduled medical review. You can still participate in the ticket program.
- If you have questions, or would like more information or a list of providers, you can call SSA's Beneficiary Access and Support Services (BASS), toll-free at 866-968-7842. You can also email general inquiries to support@chooseworkttw.net.
- SSA also provides work incentives to assist you as you increase your independence through employment.

For more information, you can:

- Ask your MRS counselor about the availability of a Certified Work Incentive Coordinator (CWIC) for benefits planning and assistance in your return to work.
- Contact BASS toll-free at 866-968-7842.
- Read information from the SSA **Work Incentives-General Information** website at www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/generalinfo.htm or sign up to attend a free Work Incentives Seminar Event at the **Choose Work Ticket to Work** website at www.chooseworkttw.net/webinar/.
- For additional Social Security information and resources in your return to work, refer to the **Social Security's Red Book** at www.ssa.gov/redbook.

Social Security - Timely Progress Guidelines
During Each 12-month Progress Review Period

First 12-month review - Complete three months of work at Trial Work Level (TWL) amount; **or** GED or high school diploma; **or** complete 60 percent of a full-time course load for an academic year in a two- or four-year degree or certification program, or technical, trade or vocational school; **or** complete a combination of this work and education requirement so that the sum of the two percentages equals 100 or more.

Second 12-month review - Complete six months of work at TWL amount, **or** complete 75 percent of a full-time course load for an academic year in a two- or four-year degree or certification program, or technical, trade or vocational school; **or** complete a combination of this work and education requirement so that the sum of the two percentages equals 100 or more.

Third 12-month review - Complete nine months of work at Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) amount; **or** complete a two-year degree or certificate from a two-year degree or certification program, or technical, trade or vocational school; **or** complete an additional academic year of full-time study in a four-year degree or certification program; **or** complete a combination of this work and education requirement so that the sum of the two percentages equals 100 or more.

Fourth 12-month review - Complete nine months of SGA amount; **or** complete an additional academic year of full-time study in a four-year degree or certification program; **or** complete a combination of this work and education requirement so that the sum of the two percentages equals 100 or more.

Fifth 12-month review - Complete six months of work at SGA amount with no Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) cash benefits in months worked; **or** complete an additional academic year of full-time study in a four-year degree or certification program or complete a four-year degree or certification program; **or** complete a combination of this work and education requirement so that the sum of the two percentages equals 100 or more.

Sixth 12-month review - Complete six months of work at SGA amount with no SSDI and/or SSI cash benefits in months worked; **or** complete a four-year degree or certification program.

The guidelines for any subsequent 12-month Progress Review are the same as for the sixth 12-month Progress Review.

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*TTY users may contact MRS by dialing 711 and providing the relay operator with the toll-free number.
www.michigan.gov/mrs

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