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Welcome
Introductions

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In the past year we have heard many questions from consumers and professionals.

- Ticket users are more visible making the program appear more popular
- People are uncertain of the process
- People are uncertain of who the program works for
- Consumers are asking more questions

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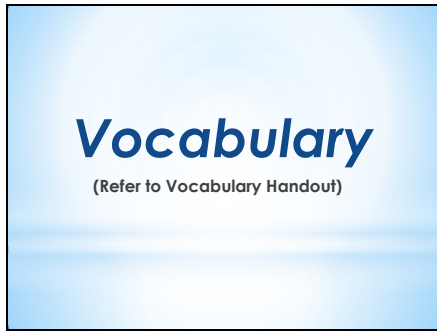
Objectives:

- Define common Ticket To Work terms
- Describe Wisconsin (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation) DVR and (Employment Network) EN Partnership Plus
- Describe Ticket Holder's eligibility for payment to EN
- Define 3 phases of payments for Ticket To Work Program
- Identify individuals who would benefit from the Ticket program and are eligible based on the payment model
- Describe Individual Work Plan (IWP)

- Describe Ticket Assignment Process

Note: Might seem complicated and overwhelming. Many of the details about the program are only needed if you are an EN. As a professional serving consumers, knowing globally what is going on behind the scenes should help you serve individuals better and communicate with other professionals involved with person’s employment goals.

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There is a short handout with common vocabulary terms in your handouts. You can use this to reference throughout the presentation. Not all terms are reflected in handout.

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TTW - Social Security program that offers financial incentives to Employment Networks (or ENs) providing employment services to Ticket Holders.

As the sheet states, Ticket Holders are SSDI and SSI beneficiaries age 18-64.

The range of services vary from EN to EN.

Examples of services: job placement, interviewing skills and job readiness training, benefits counseling, etc.

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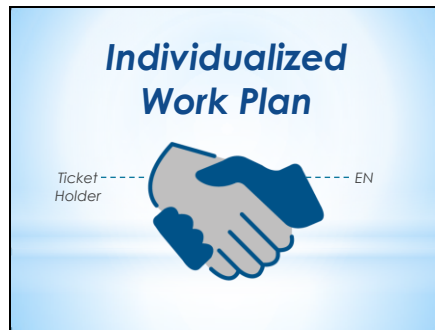


Basic Timeline:

- Individual gets notification from Social Security telling them they have a Ticket
- Choose Employment Network to assign to
- EN assists person with an Individualized Work Plan (IWP)
- IWP sent to Maximus
- Ticket is assigned
- Individual works with EN following the IWP
- Once individual is earning specific level of income EN collect payment

Historically, one of the issues with this program on the EN side of things is that there is not money provided up front for services delivered.

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Individualized Work Plan (IWP)

It's an agreement between the EN and the Ticket Holder that describes how services will be provided.

Lays out roles and responsibilities for both parties.

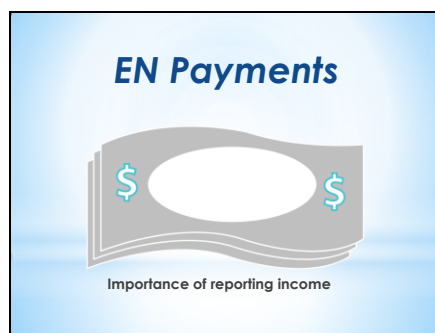
Overall, it is a description of steps to get to individual's vocational goal.

It's almost like a contract.

See the IWP form in your handouts.

Good reference material for when things aren't going according to original plan.

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Financial consequences to EN

ENs only get paid based on the Ticket Holder's earnings and benefit payment status.

Payments are different to the EN depending on whether or not the person gets SSI or SSDI.

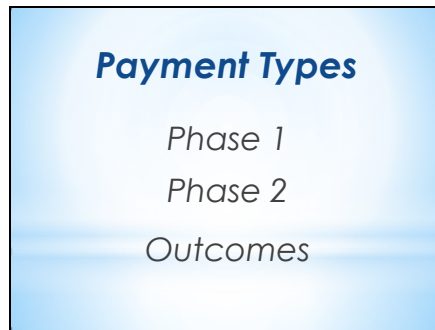
ENs must submit evidence of earnings for individuals they want to collect payment on. (best form generally paystubs)

**** Important. Consumers have to report income to Social Security and the EN and DVR if they are working with DVR

**** Consideration for individuals to make before they assigning their ticket... a bit more work reporting income.

There are three Payment Types, Phase 1, Phase 2 and Outcomes.

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Phase 1: 4 Milestone Payments

A person must be earning over Trial Work Period Level for 1 month, then 3 months, then 6 months, then 9 months.

Phase 2: 11 possible payments for SSDI and 18 for SSI.

Payments are paid when individual is earning SGA or more and still receiving benefit payment.

Outcomes: 36 possible payments for SSDI and 60 for SSI.

Payments are paid when individual is earning SGA or more and no longer receiving benefit.

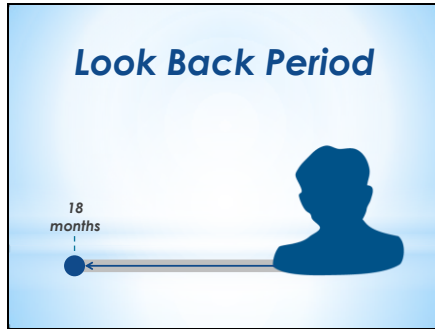
Please take a look at the chart provided if you want to know more about the amount of each payment type.

Not all people start in Phase 1 and are eligible for all types of payment.

Factors that affect type of payment are previous work with EN, DVR or person has recent earnings

It depends on if they worked with an EN, DVR, have had recent earnings

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Look Back Period:

18 months prior to ticket assignment
Earnings are evaluated to map out
future payments for the EN

Unless you are an EN, you won't likely
have to worry about Look Back Period,
but you may get questions from
consumers

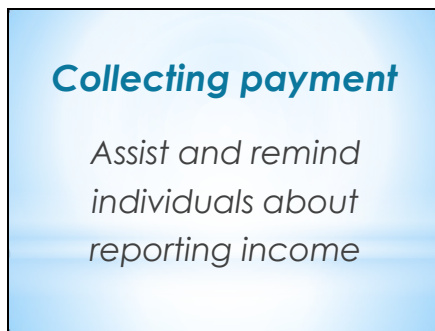
Tips:

Payment eligibility is affected by many
factors,

Look back period is definitely one factor
affecting an EN's willingness to accept
someone for Ticket assignment

Determining person's eligibility is
determined by using person's
reporting, earnings evidence from 3rd
party resources, and a tool provided by
Maximus to the ENs.

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Process for payment collection:

Consumer sends paystubs/evidence of
earnings

EN sends paystubs to Maximus

Maximus requests payment from SSA

SSA approves denies payment to
Maximus

Maximus pays EN

Reporting income is important. Also,
there are many steps involved in the
payment process, so it can take many
months for process to be completed.

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DVR has been making a decision on a case by case basis whether to have the ticket be "In Use SVR" for cost reimbursement or to act as an EN- having the Ticket assigned to DVR and collecting milestone payments.

Cost Reimbursement: For consumers who achieve and sustain SGA or more for at least 9 out of 12 consecutive months DVR is reimbursed for the cost of VR services provided including associated administrative, counseling, and placement costs (ACP costs).

Wisconsin DVR is currently in the process of changing policy, so that all individuals will be considered for cost reimbursement and DVR will not be acting as an EN.

Those who have their Ticket assigned to DVR will maintain this status and work out of the program, since DVR had chosen to act as an EN in these cases.

When DVR is working with an individual, their Ticket is considered "in-use SVR" meaning that they cannot assign their Ticket to an EN during that time.

Wisconsin DVR is pioneering the Partnership Plus model developed by SSA.

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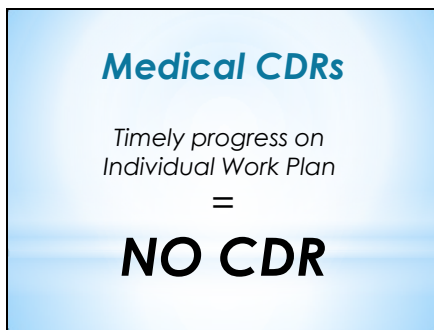


Prior to Partnership Plus, if a consumer worked with DVR they couldn't work with an EN. This left a lot of people not getting the chance for continued services post VR or while on VR waiting lists.

Partnership Plus provides continuity of services to individuals because they can now access EN services prior to and after working with DVR.

Example: Individual works with VR to get training, education, maybe job placement. Then they reach SGA earnings and are closed after 90 days of successful employment. The person may feel like they need check-in or support services, so they assign their Ticket to an EN to provide follow along services. EN and DVR are reimbursed for services rendered.

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Timely progress for Ticket is different than for DVR.

DVR progress measures: A description of criteria to evaluate progress toward achievement of the employment outcome.

DVR can incorporate timely progress requirements into the IPE if the consumer requests this.

Ticket – meet earnings requirements for Med CDR protections

DVR – meet goals in IPE within specific timelines

Section 301

Webcast in this series later

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People who are working which results in the EN being eligible for Ticket Payments.

People who have recently worked with DVR

People report earnings in a timely fashion

People who want to work off of their benefits

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A person does not have to assign their Ticket to use Work Incentives. This is a common myth.

Timely Progress for DVR is different than Timely Progress for Ticket to Work.

Many people think the Ticket provides job placement. While in some cases this can be the service, not all ENs offer placement as a service.

As professionals, we should look for people who are good candidates for the program and assist them with resources

for more information.

Work Incentive Benefits Specialists must include information about the Ticket in benefits analyses per new DVR tech specs. If you have questions or curiosities about the program, ask your colleagues and contact Social Security.

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A light blue rectangular slide with a black border. The word "Contacts" is centered at the top in a bold, dark blue font. Below it, the contact information for Stephanie Drum is listed in a smaller, black font: "Stephanie Drum", "Employment Resources, Inc.", "608-246-3444 ext 229", and "drum@eri-wi.org" (with the email address in green).

Contacts

Stephanie Drum
Employment Resources, Inc.
608-246-3444 ext 229
drum@eri-wi.org

Please contact me if you have any more specific questions.

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A light blue rectangular slide with a black border. The text "Websites and Resources:" is at the top. Below it are three entries, each with a label and a URL: "Ticket to Work Site" with <https://yourtickettowork.com>, "Social Security Site" with <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10061.html>, and "POMS section DI 550" with <https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/home!readform>.

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