



A Specialized Human Resource Organization

Meeting the employment needs of people with disabilities and the business community.

Dear Ticket to Work Candidate...

Get help finding a job. For individuals 18 years and older, the Social Security Administration (SSA) has created the Ticket to Work. Under this program, beneficiaries can request services from approved "Employment Networks" in order to go to work and earn as much income as possible. The Ticket to Work is voluntary: individuals can consider this option if they are interested in becoming employed.

You can work and receive SSA benefits.

As a basic observation, if someone receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI), every \$1 of earned income will result in a reduction of less than \$0.50 for SSI. While SSI is reduced, there is much more income to be gained by working than receiving SSI. For Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), the beneficiary has many years of eligibility, including a Trial Work Period to find out if they have the ability to work independent of cash benefits. It is important to know which SSA benefit someone receives, because work affects these benefit programs in different ways. AHEDD can provide or coordinate "Work Incentive Counseling" to help you understand how going to work impacts your benefits and eligibility.

How many people do we serve?

AHEDD serves individuals by providing supported employment and work incentive counseling throughout PA and Delaware. The majority of persons served by AHEDD for job placement (over 60%), receive SSA benefits. Persons served have various disabilities, including physical, sensory, mental health, intellectual, and autism. Last year, AHEDD assisted 337 new persons in becoming employed, with an average monthly income of \$834 ranging from \$710 to \$1,019 among adult age groups.

How long does it take to help someone get a job? Your time is valuable and so is ours. While everybody's situation is different, currently it takes us an average of 146 days from point of intake to achieve a job placement that is suitable to our participants.

What are your expectations? It is important for you and our staff to make clear our mutual expectations and to establish an effective communication process. We will work with you to draft a plan of activities which will lead to work and successful job retention.

What is special about AHEDD? Our agency is totally dedicated to making employment a reality for persons with disabilities. We appreciate the difficulty that many beneficiaries have understanding the complex issues about benefits and opportunities to go to work. Your success in the workplace is our mission and it is why we have been in business since 1977.

It is up to you to decide whether you want to work. If you are interested in learning more, contact us and we will forward you an application for AHEDD's Ticket to Work program. If together, you and our agency decide we are a good fit, it is a very easy process to notify SSA and get you started on the path to employment. Regardless of your decision, we want you to know that we have your best interests at heart.

For More Information

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