

Ticket to Work Grievance Process

Number 5 in a series of fact sheets about the Ticket to Work program.

Ticket to Work is a **Social Security Administration** (SSA) program that helps beneficiaries with disabilities get the services and/or training they need in order to work. The process for resolving Ticket to Work disputes differs depending on where you have assigned your Ticket.

• If you have assigned your Ticket to the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS):

The Maryland Client Assistance Program (CAP) is available to assist you in resolving concerns or difficulties specific to DORS, which is a participating Employment Network (EN) through the Ticket to Work program. Call CAP at 1-800-638-6243.

CAP is a consumer advocacy program related to DORS that can help you when applying for or receiving any services funded under the Rehabilitation Act. CAP emphasizes the resolution of concerns at the lowest level possible, and encourages mediation to settle disagreements.

You have the right to request a formal appeal hearing if you disagree with decisions made about your rehabilitation services. CAP staff can help you write your appeal request, and CAP can offer legal assistance or provide representation at an appeal hearing at no cost to you. Appeal hearings are held through the Office of Administrative Hearings by an Administrative Law Judge.

• If you have assigned your Ticket to any other Employment Network (EN):

The Maryland Disability Law Center (MDLC) is available to assist you with concerns and complaints about Employment Networks. Call 1-800-233-7201.

MDLC is a non-profit legal services organization designated as the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) program for Maryland. MDLC also emphasizes the resolution of concerns and complaints at the lowest level possible, and encourages mediation to settle disputes.

MDLC can assist you through the 3-step Ticket to Work grievance process for ENs: (1) Each EN must have an internal dispute resolution process, (2) disputes can be brought before the Ticket to Work Program Manager, Maximus, and (3) issues still unresolved can be brought before the Social Security Administration. MDLC can provide you with information, technical assistance, advocacy services, and/or legal representation at no cost to you throughout these processes.

• If you have other concerns about the Ticket to Work program:

You can contact MDLC or CAP for general information (see reverse side for contact information), or you can call the Ticket to Work program manager, Maximus, at 1-866-968-7842.

Where can I get more information about the Ticket to Work program?

Benefits Planning Assistance & Outreach (BPAO) Projects

BPAO projects will help you plan for changes that might occur to your Federal and State benefits as a result of employment. They will help you understand the Social Security work incentives, including Ticket to Work, so you can make an informed choice about employment.

Benefits Resource Center

Serving Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel, Carroll, Harford & Howard counties

Phone:410-444-1400 Toll Free: 1-888-560-2221 Fax: 410-444-0825 TTY: 1-800-735-2258 Email: <u>mcil@mcil-md.org</u>

Benefits InfoSource

Serving Montgomery & Prince George's counties, Southern MD, Western MD, & Eastern Shore

Phone:301-587-4137 Toll Free: 1-888-838-1776 Fax: 301-588-3951 TTY: Dial 711 for MD Relay

State Partners

Division of Rehabilitation Services

(DORS) is the State-operated vocational rehabilitation agency in Maryland. DORS is a part of the Maryland state government, and is one of the places you can use your Ticket to get employment services.

Contact: Tom Scheurich

Phone:410-554-9307 Toll Free: 1-888-554-0334 Fax: 410-554-9308 TTY: 410-554-9411 Email: <u>Tscheurich@dors.state.md.us</u>

This publication was made possible by a grant from the Social Security Administration. SSA has reviewed this publication for technical accuracy only; however, it should not be considered an official SSA document.

Advocacy Resources

These agencies will help you understand your rights and your choices under the Ticket to Work program. They will provide you with information about the Ticket program, and in some cases they may be able to provide direct advocacy assistance.

Maryland Disability Law Center

Statewide legal assistance for people with disabilities

Phone:410-727-6352 Toll Free: 1-800-233-7201 Fax:410-727-6389 TTY: 410-727-6387 Email: <u>intake@mdlcbalto.org</u> Website: <u>www.mdlcbalto.org</u>

Client Assistance Program

Statewide assistance regarding services available under the Rehabilitation Act

Phone/ Toll Free: 1-800-638-6243 Fax: 410-554-9362 TTY: 410-554-9360 Email: <u>cap@dors.state.md.us</u>

National Partners

Maximus

Call Maximus to get a Ticket, to replace a lost Ticket, or to get a list of ENs near you. Call anytime for answers to general questions about the Ticket to Work program.

Phone/ Toll Free: 1-866-968-7842 TTY/ Toll Free: 1-866-833-2967 Website: www.yourtickettowork.com

Social Security Administration

For information about the Ticket to Work program, call your local Social Security office or go to the SSA website: <u>www.socialsecurity.gov/work</u>

MD Coalition for Work Incentive Improvements Let's Talk Ticket #5, side 2