

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**Workforce Issuance No. 11-57**

Policy  Information

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**To:** Chief Elected Officials  
Workforce Investment Board Chairs  
Workforce Investment Board Directors  
Title I Administrators  
Career Center Directors  
Title I Fiscal Officers

**cc:** WIA State Partners

**From:** George Moriarty, Director  
Department of Career Services

**Date:** September 15, 2011

**Subject:** **Ticket-to-Work Program**

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**Purpose:** To encourage Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs), One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners to consider participation in the Federal Ticket-to-Work Program as a means of generating additional revenue for the local workforce system.

**Background:** On August 24, 2011, the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (ETA) published Training and Employment Notice No. 6-11, Increasing the Public Workforce Development System's Participation in The Ticket to Work (TTW) Program for Disability Beneficiaries. TTW is designed to provide persons with disabilities, including those receiving Social Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) with greater choices to obtain, regain or maintain employment. This is accomplished through the provision of targeted vocational rehabilitation and employment services (and related support services) from public and/or private providers through a local Employment Network (EN). An EN is an entity approved by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to serve TTW-eligible individuals. Under TTW, a designated EN earns income when an eligible individual with whom it is working becomes employed at specified earning levels. Payments are made directly to the EN by the SSA.

Local workforce systems (by regulation) are automatically assumed to be qualified as ENs. Local boards and career centers, alone or in partnership with

other local practitioners may seek designation as an EN to provide TTW services by completing a simplified application process with the SSA. Designation as an EN allows an entity to become a qualified vendor, but does not obligate the entity to provide services. Under TTW a beneficiary may obtain rehabilitation and employment services from any EN the beneficiary selects, but only if the EN agrees to accept that individual's "ticket".

Training and Employment Notice (TEN) No. 6-11 also announced a newly developed "electronic process" to encourage and facilitate greater participation by local workforce entities in TTW. Elements that have been streamlined under the new procedures include:

- monthly identification of eligible "ticket" holders registered in career centers;
- electronically accessed templates and guidance for completing an Individual Employment Plan (IEP) for those ticket holders choosing the local entity as his/her EN;
- automatic assignment of the individual's "ticket" to the chosen local EN for accurate accounting and record keeping; and
- monitoring the qualified earnings of all assigned "tickets" by SSA and automatic issuance of quarterly payments to the "ticket holding" EN.

TEN No.6-11 also provides electronic links for additional information regarding the TTW Program and associated Technical Assistance available to designated ENs.

The full text of TEN No. 6-11 can be accessed through the following link:

<http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/TEN6-11-ACC.pdf>

Specific information regarding TTW payments to designated ENs (including Payment Tables) can be accessed through the following link:

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/work/paymentsystem.html>

**Inquiries:** Direct all inquiries regarding the content of TEN No. 6-11 to Randee Chafkin, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor at [chafkin.randee@dol.gov](mailto:chafkin.randee@dol.gov) or 202-693-2723.