

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**Workforce Issuance No. 12-69**

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  
DCS Operations Managers

**cc:** WIA State Partners

**From:** Alice Sweeney, Acting Director  
Department of Career Services

**Date:** December 20, 2012

**Subject:** **Receiving Ticket to Work Payments as an Employment Network**

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**Purpose:** To announce to Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners a streamlined process for One-Stop Career Centers (referred to as American Job Centers) and workforce investment boards to become Employment Networks (ENs) under the Social Security Administration's Ticket to Work and Self Sufficiency (TTW) program as outline in the Employment and Training Administrations (ETA) Training and Employment Notice (TEN) No. 14-12, released December 4, 2012, [http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr\\_doc.cfm?DOCN=4512](http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=4512).

**Background:** The Ticket to Work (TTW) program is the centerpiece of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act (TWIIA) of 1999, Public Law 106-170. This program provides those Social Security disability beneficiaries who are receiving Social Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Insurance (SSDI) benefits with incentives and options for them to enter or re-enter the workforce. It provides disability beneficiaries with choices, opportunities, and supports needed to become employed, stay employed, and increase earnings. It has the potential for eventually reducing their dependency on benefits by becoming fully self-supporting.

Most adults who receive Social Security benefits based on disability are eligible for the TTW Program. They may assign their Tickets to an Employment Network (EN) of their choice to obtain education, training, employment services,

vocational rehabilitation, and other support services necessary to maximize their economic self-sufficiency through work opportunities. An EN is an entity that is approved by the SSA to serve individuals under the TTW program. Once approved eligible by SSA, an EN can accept a Ticket from any individual who qualifies for the TTW program. All individuals on SSDI and SSI between the ages of 18 and 64 qualify for the TTW program. The individual has complete choice regarding the EN to which he/she assigns his/her Ticket, and the EN has complete choice regarding which Tickets to accept. When an individual becomes employed at specified earning levels, **the EN receives a series of payments from SSA linked to that individual's outcomes.**

Per the TTW regulations, **workforce development entities are automatically assumed to be qualified as ENs.** The application that must be completed in order for an entity to become an EN is either a Request for Qualification (RFQ) or a new document, called a Payment Agreement (PA). TEN No. 14-12 describes the new WIA EN Payment Agreement and lists technical assistance resources to provide information for organizations/agencies applying to become an EN, and for existing ENs.

**Action**

**Required:**

Please review the information contained in TEN 14-12, and share this information with all appropriate individuals. Local workforce areas are asked to seriously consider the opportunities and benefits to our customers with disabilities that would be derived from the establishment of an EN in the local area; as well as the potential benefit to the EN entity. This program provides a potential source of revenue to Career Centers for services that may already be provided to customers with disabilities.

**Inquiries:**

Please direct inquiries regarding this issuance to the Leslie Seifried [Lseifried@detma.org](mailto:Lseifried@detma.org).

Questions regarding the information provided in TEN 14-12 may be directed to the appropriate Regional Offices:

- Laura Voght, Social Security Administration, [laura.voght@ssa.gov](mailto:laura.voght@ssa.gov)
- Randee Chafkin, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor at (202) 693-2723 or [chafkin.randee@dol.gov](mailto:chafkin.randee@dol.gov).