

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**Workforce Issuance No. 14-58**

☐ 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, Director  
Department of Career Services

**Date:** July 22, 2014

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

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**Purpose:** To announce to Local Workforce Investment Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners a revised streamlined process for One-Stop Career 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. 2-14, released July 8, 2014. TEN No. 2-14 replaces [TEN No. 14-12](#) dated December 4, 2012. This issuance replaces Massachusetts Workforce Issuance No. 12-69, dated December 20, 2012.

**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 individuals age 18 to 64 receiving Social Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits with incentives and options 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 economically self-sufficient.

Most adults who receive Social Security disability payments 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. 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.

Public workforce entities that are already an EN remain approved as and EN and do not need to submit a new application. **All public workforce entities, such as SWAs, SWIBs, LWIBs, and AJCs/OSCCs that wish to become an EN must now submit to SSA an EN Request for Quotation (RFQ).** SSA has streamlined the RFQ for public workforce entities by clearly outlining sections that are not applicable to qualifying workforce entities, and do not have to be completed. Once the RFQ is approved by SSA, a Blanket Purchase Agreement is placed on record and the SSA-approved workforce entity can begin operating as an EN. The RFQ can be found at: <http://www.ssa.gov/work/enrfq.html>. **The previous WIA EN Payment Agreement designed solely for the public workforce system, announced in TEN No. 14-12, is no longer an available option.**

**Action**

**Required:** Please review 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 Jason Albert, [jalbert@detma.org](mailto:jalbert@detma.org).

Questions regarding the information provided in TEN 2-14 may be directed to the appropriate Regional Office or Nancy Friedman, Social Security Administration, [nancy.friedman@ssa.gov](mailto:nancy.friedman@ssa.gov).