

Returning to work can be **CONFUSING!**



Call PABSS if:

- You want to return to work but are afraid about what will happen to your state and federal benefits.
- You need help understanding how and when to disclose a disability.
- You have trouble getting employment-related services or supports to prepare for a job.
- You faced discrimination or need help getting accommodations from an employer.



Why Work?

- Increase your monthly income
- Increase self-esteem and self-worth
- Socialization
- Increase independence



**DISABILITY RIGHTS
CONNECTICUT**
Justice. Community. Inclusion.

Disability Rights Connecticut

846 Wethersfield Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06114

Website

www.disrightsct.org

Email

info@disrightsct.org

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PABSS

Protection and Advocacy
for Beneficiaries of
Social Security

WE WORK
SO THAT YOU CAN TOO!

If you receive SSI or SSDI
and want to work,
find out what the
PABSS Program
can offer you.



For information and assistance:

Disability Rights Connecticut

PABSS Program

846 Wethersfield Avenue

Hartford, Connecticut 06114

(860) 297-4300

(800) 842-7303 (Voice toll-free in CT)

info@disrightsct.org

Historically, people with disabilities who are eligible to receive Social Security have faced difficult choices when deciding about whether to work.

The PABSS Program was established in 1999 when the Ticket to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act was enacted into law.

The grant authorizes Disability Rights Connecticut to provide information on advocacy and other services to help Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Social Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries eliminate barriers to obtaining and maintaining employment.



PABSS program staff can provide information, referral, advocacy and technical assistance on:

- Ticket to Work
- Using Work Incentives
- Maintaining your Medicaid benefits while working (Med Connect)
- Referrals and assistance with Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Avoiding Social Security Overpayments.

PABSS staff can:

- Answer questions you may have, provide referrals to alternate resources, and work to eliminate barriers and discrimination you may face when trying to return to work.
- Provide direct advocacy assistance to SSI/SSDI beneficiaries in making informed choices regarding vocational services, in understanding and asserting employment rights, and negotiating the rehabilitation services system.
- Collaborate with advocates, employers, service providers, Social Security beneficiaries and others to identify deficiencies and gaps in the system.
- Advocate for systems change on behalf of SSI/SSDI beneficiaries to better meet their vocational rehabilitation needs and enforce their rights.
- Provide public education and training about PABSS and the return to work service system including VR, One-Stops and community based organizations

- Assist when lack of housing is an obstacle to regaining meaningful employment.
- Strategize about transportation options for seeking employment.
- Provide information and referrals regarding Certificates of Employability and Absolute Pardons for individuals who were incarcerated.
- Assist individuals with navigating transitions services from school to work or post-secondary education.
- Educate individuals on advocacy skills to express their independence and freedom of choice.
- Support the use of Assistive Technology to eliminate barriers to employment.

