

Returning to work can be **CONFUSING!**

Call Disability Rights CT if:

- You want to return to work, but are worried 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 your 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

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 (voice)
(800)-842-7303 (toll-free CT)
(860)-509-4992 (videophone)

info@disrightsct.org

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

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

The PABSS grant authorizes Disability Rights Connecticut, DRCT, to provide information on advocacy and other services to help SSDI and SSI beneficiaries eliminate barriers to obtaining and maintaining employment.

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

- Ticket to Work- Employment Network and Benefits Counselors
- Using work incentives
- Maintaining your Medicaid Benefits while working (Med Connect)
- Referrals and assistance with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services
- Employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act

DRCT 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 rehabilitation services, in understanding and asserting employment rights, and negotiating the rehabilitation services system.
- Collaborate with advocates, employees, direct service providers, Social Security beneficiaries and others to identify deficiencies and gaps in the system.
- Advocate for systemic change on behalf of SSI/SSDI beneficiaries to better meet their vocational rehabilitation needs and enforce their rights.



- Address housing accessibility obstacles that prevent an individual from obtaining or regaining meaningful employment.
- Strategize about transportation options for seeking employment.
- Provide information and referrals for individuals who were incarcerated to move toward employment.
- Assist individuals with navigating transition services from school to work or post-secondary education.
- Assist individuals with building their self-advocacy skills.
- Support individuals in the use of Assistive Technology to eliminate barriers to employment.
- Provide public education and training about PABSS and the return-to-work service system including VR, One Stops, and community-based organizations.