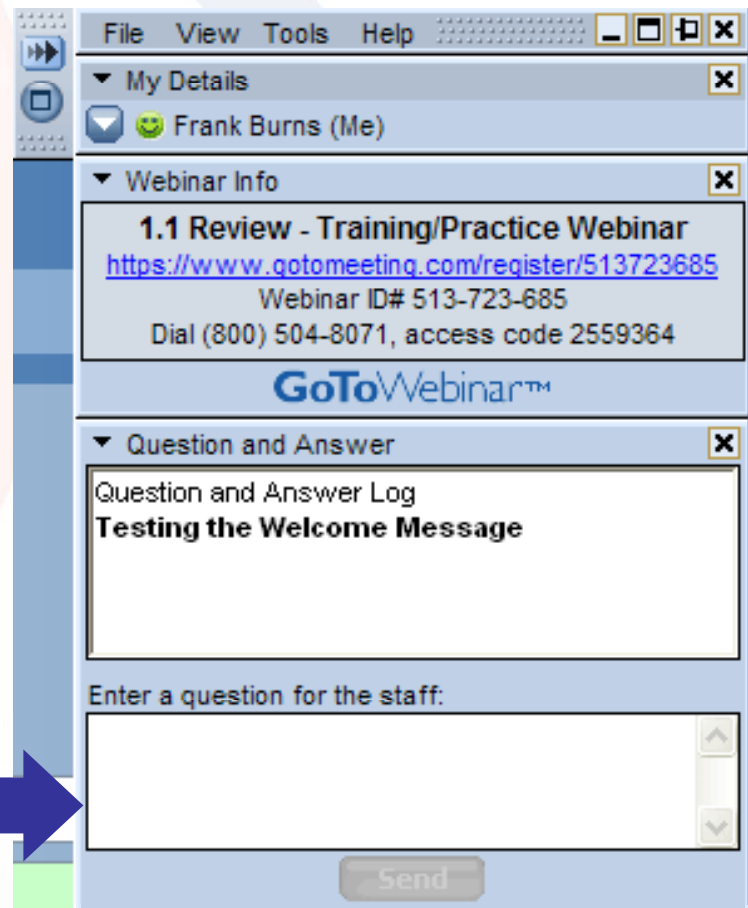
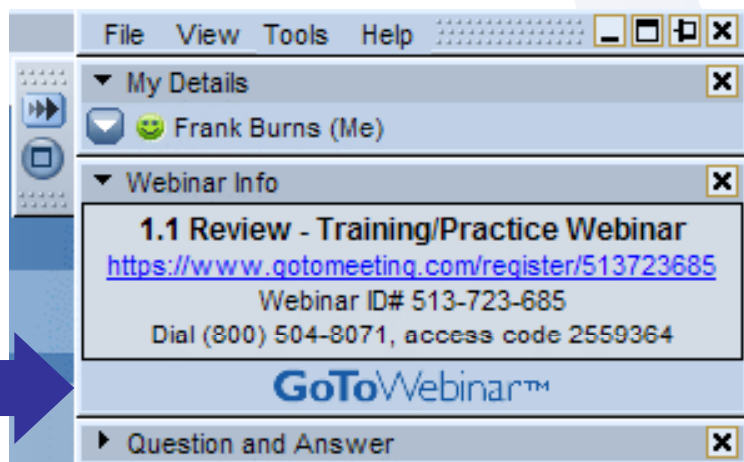


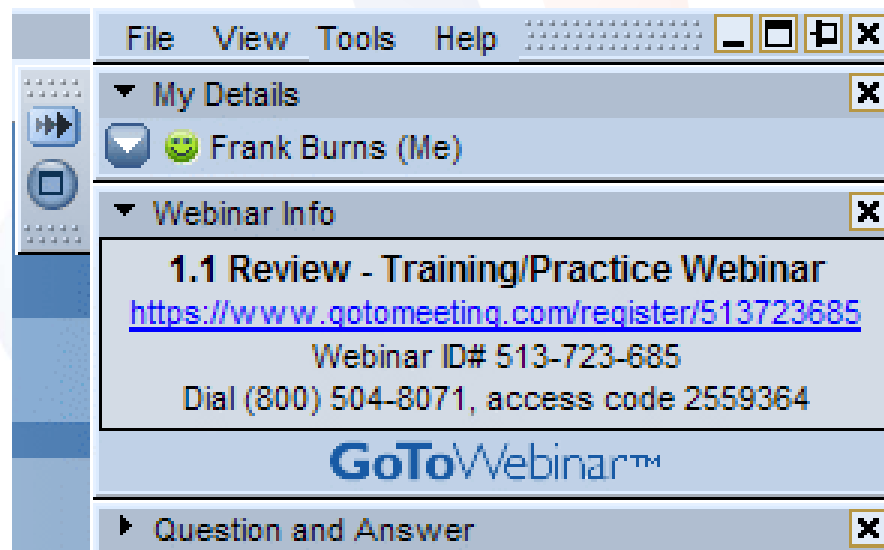
The logo features a stylized circular emblem with three dots (two blue, one orange) and a swooshing line. The background is blue with a faint Social Security Administration seal and abstract circular patterns.

# Ticket to Work

## **The NEW Ticket To Work EN Payment Overview The Basics**

Jul-08





## Two Payment Systems for ENs

- Milestone/Outcome
- Outcome

# What's the Difference?

## **Milestone / Outcome system**

- EN's can receive payments for Ticket-Holder work while they are still receiving benefits (Milestones) AND after their benefits stop (Outcomes).

## **Outcome System**

- EN's receive payments only after the Ticket-holder's benefits have stopped.

# How Much Can I Receive ?

## Maximum Ticket Value

### Milestone / Outcome

	SSDI	SSI
• Phase 1 Milestones	\$ 4,708	\$ 4,708
• Phase 2 Milestones	\$ 3,883	\$ 3,654
• Outcomes	\$12,708	\$12,180
Total	\$21,299	\$20,542
• Outcome	\$23,652	\$22,620

# Which Payment System Is Best for Me ?

- Depends on EN Business Model.
  - For beneficiaries with low probability of sustained SGA-level earnings
    - > Milestone / Outcome System



# What If I Change My Mind ?

- EN's can change their Payment System once each calendar year.
- Changes effect only new Ticket assignments.



# Phase 1 Milestones

- Consists of four possible Milestone payments
- Earnings are based on Trial Work levels of \$670 and not SGA
- Milestones must be paid in sequence, e.g. available Phase 1 Milestones before Phase 2 Milestones even if work attained for Phase 1 Milestones is over SGA

## Phase 1 Milestones (continued)

- The first Milestone is attained once the beneficiary has worked 2 weeks within one calendar month at 50% of the Trial Work Level amount
- The second Milestone is attained once the beneficiary has worked 3 months within a 6 month period at Trial Work Level amounts

# Phase 1 Milestones (continued)

- The third Milestone is attained once the beneficiary has worked 6 months within a 12 month period at Trial Work Level amounts
- The fourth Milestone is attained once the beneficiary has worked 9 months within a 18 month period at Trial Work Level amounts –
  - **Certification of Services Needed**

# Phase 2 Milestones

- Begins once all available Phase 1 Milestones are paid
- Any month after available Phase 1 in which the beneficiary demonstrates SGA and is receiving cash benefits
- There are 11 possible Phase 2 Milestones for SSDI and Concurrent beneficiaries
- There are 18 possible Phase 2 Milestones for SSI beneficiaries

# Outcome Payments

- Payments to an EN or State VR Agency (acting as an EN) when the beneficiary has earnings equal to or greater than SGA and is no longer receiving cash benefits.
- ENs and State VR Agencies (acting as ENs) servicing T2(SSDI) and Concurrent beneficiaries may receive up to 36 Outcome payments.
- ENs and State VR Agencies (acting as ENs) servicing T16(SSA) beneficiaries may receive up to 60 Outcome payments.
- Outcome payments can be made to ENs or State VR Agencies (acting as an EN) even if a cost reimbursement payment has been made for a previous timeframe

# Outcome Payment Method

- SSI: Up to 60 monthly payments of \$377 = \$22,620
  - Up from \$13,500 potential
- SSDI: Up to 36 outcome payments of \$657 = \$23,652
  - No longer need to wait for five years or more

# Requesting EN Payments

## *The Basics*



- **Evidentiary Payment Request**
  - Monthly or quarterly submission of Evidentiary Payment Request (EPR) including primary evidence of earnings
- **Certification Payment Request**
  - When primary evidence of earnings is not readily available, the EN may submit a Certification Payment Request (CPR) using secondary evidence of earnings information and a signed repayment agreement

**At the end of each month or quarter, submit primary evidence of a Ticket-holder's earnings along with the EN Payment Request form.**

# Primary Evidence of Earnings

- Pay stubs
- Earnings statement prepared and signed by employer
- Records from third-party source that gives monthly earnings breakdown (i.e. The Work Number)
- Other forms of earnings evidence such as employee prepared statements and annual wage information (W-2, tax records, etc) are **NO LONGER ACCEPTED**

**NOTE:** All payment requests for self-employed Ticket-holders must be submitted as Certification Payment Requests

# Certification Payment Request Process

If primary evidence of earnings is not readily available, an EN can make a Certification Payment Request by selecting the CPR option on the EN Payment Request Form and including an accepted source of secondary earnings information, such as an Earnings Inquiry Request (EIR) response. **These CPR requests can now be made for both Outcome and Milestone payment requests.**



# CPR Earnings Information Sources

**Recent Dated Contact** – The EN has had recent contact with either the beneficiary or the employer and confirmed that the beneficiary has earnings that qualify for Milestone or Outcome payment

**Earnings Inquiry Response (EIR)** – The EN has received an EIR response from MAXIMUS that the beneficiary has earnings over 3 times SGA for the quarter in question

**National Directory of New Hires (NDNH)** – If the EN has access to the NDNH they may submit a print-out of the appropriate information

**Self-Employment Income (SEI) Form** – If the Ticket-holder is self-employed, the SEI form must be completed and signed by the Ticket-holder

# Earnings Inquiry Request (EIR)

- Earnings information available prior to submitting payment requests
- Receive written response indicating whether beneficiary is over 3 x SGA for a given calendar quarter
- Only last two years of earnings information is available

# Earnings Inquiry Request (EIR) – How to Submit

- Directly through website with online submission form – [www.yourtickettowork.com/earningsinquiry](http://www.yourtickettowork.com/earningsinquiry)
- EIR Form – Will receive by email or download from website
- Email or fax in form with accompanying data sheet





## New Program, New Opportunities

## Earnings Inquiry Request (EIR) – Restrictions

- Only written EIR requests will be accepted
- Email submission must be sent from authorized person
- Earnings are generally available eight months after the close of a quarter
- Not available for time periods before or after Ticket assignment
- Earnings info generally not available for self-employed or employees of the Federal government

<b>Option</b>	<b>Evidentiary Payment Request (Outcome or Milestone)</b>	<b>Certification Payment Request (Outcome or Milestone)</b>
<b>EN Submits</b>	EN Payment Request Form (on website) and primary earnings evidence	EN Payment Request Form (on website), secondary earnings evidence, and a signed repayment agreement
<b>Evidence Required</b>	Primary earnings evidence	Secondary earnings evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•EIR response</li> <li>•Report of contact</li> <li>•SEI Form</li> </ul>
<b>Request Submitted</b>	At any time after a closed earnings period (monthly, quarterly, or longer)	
<b>Best Used When</b>	When primary evidence is available due to regular, in-person contact with the Ticket-holder	When remote contact is maintained, EIR response is positive, or the Ticket-holder is self-employed

- **Auto-Pay**

Once at least 9 months have passed since Ticket assignment and the EN Certification of Services Provided has been completed, ENs will have the option of putting individual Tickets under Auto-Pay.

Once a Ticket is enrolled in Auto-Pay, the EN does not have to submit any further payment requests or evidence.

- All Milestones and Outcomes 1-12 will be paid when qualifying earnings are posted to SSA records.
- Outcomes 13 > will be paid monthly without waiting for earnings verification.

# Payment Status Reports

- Monthly status reports of all EN Payment Requests submitted to MAXIMUS
- Available on the 15th of each month and reflect activity for the previous month, as well as year-to-date payment data
- Available in either printed or electronic format
- Includes the date each payment request was received by MAXIMUS, beneficiary name, payment option, dollar amount paid, claim month(s), and the status of each payment request submitted
- [www.yourtickettowork.com/payment\\_options](http://www.yourtickettowork.com/payment_options)



- New SSA service to assist ENs to follow up on outstanding EN payment requests
- Use if more than 30 days have passed since payment request was sent to SSA for payment consideration
- Email to [EN.HelpDesk@ssa.gov](mailto:EN.HelpDesk@ssa.gov) or fax to 410-597-1577
- Include
  - Beneficiary's SSN only (not name)
  - Specific payment request (for Milestones – the MS number; for Outcome – the claim month and year)
  - Date of request submitted to SSA, available from MAXIMUS by phone or via EN Payment Status Report



- Developed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Financial Management Service
- Provides participating Federal agencies (including SSA) a method of making remittance information available to their vendors through the Internet.
- Match recently deposited EN payments to your records prior to receiving statements from the Social Security Administration.
- Free of charge to registered vendors with Internet access, and is free of charge to participating Federal agencies.
- Visit the web site at <https://fmsapps.treas.gov/paid/>

# Important Reminders

- Achievement of Milestones must occur after Ticket assignment and before start of the outcome payment period.
- Actual EN payments depend on a number of variables and may be different for each beneficiary.

## Partnership Plus Exclusion

- If the beneficiary chooses services from a State VR Agency that has selected cost reimbursement **and the beneficiary is working when the State VR Agency closes the case**, then Phase 1 Milestone payments are **not** payable to an EN or other State VR Agency (acting as an EN) under the same ticket

# Phase 1 Milestone Exclusions

## Recent Work Rule

- **Work at or above Trial Work level (\$670 in 2008) within 18 months “prior to Ticket assignment” can impact EN’s access to Phase 1 Milestones**
  - > Patterned after criteria used for Phase 1 Milestone payments
  - > Beneficiary CD mailed to ENs includes recent work history
  - > **IMPORTANT:** Rule does not apply to transition cases

# Recent Work Rule

Apply each rule independently to determine which Milestones are available

- Milestone 1 not available if earnings = TW level in month prior to Ticket assignment
- Milestone 2 not available if earnings = TW level in 3 of 6 months prior to Ticket assignment
- Milestone 3 not available if earnings = TW level in 6 of 12 months prior to Ticket assignment
- Milestone 4 not available if earnings at TW level in 9 of 18 months prior to Ticket assignment



## New Program, New Opportunities

# What Happens to My Current Cases When the New Regulations Take Effect ?

Tickets which have payments under the Old Regulations will be “transitioned” to the new payment provisions when the first payment request for months after June 2008 is processed.



# How Does “Transitioning” Work ?

- Tickets that have been paid Milestones 1, 2, or 3 will receive the next Phase 1 Milestone.
- Tickets that have been paid Milestone 4 will receive Phase 2 – Milestone 1 or Outcome 1, as appropriate.

Tickets that have been paid Outcomes under the old regulations will have their remaining Outcomes computed as follows:

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{TTV (Total Ticket Value)} \\ - \text{ORP (Old Reg Payments)} \\ \hline \text{NR\$ (New Reg \$ Payable)} \end{array}$$

- NR\$ divided by Outcome Payment amount = available Outcome Payments

# Transition Computation Example

EN received 4 Milestones in 2007 and 4 Outcomes in 2008.

\$ 21,299 (TTV for SSDI M-O Ticket)

- \$ 5,196 (Old Reg Payments)

\$ 16,103 (New Reg \$ Payable)

\$16,103 divided by \$353 = 45 Outcomes

# Things to Remember

- Once a Ticket is transitioned, no more payments will be processed for months prior to July 2008.
- All payment requests for pre-July 2008 months must be received no later than 3/31/09.

- Software to support New regulation payments not available until October 2008.
- Until then, all payments (including requests for July and August) will be processed as old regulation payments.

While the unavailability of the new software will delay the receipt of New regulation payments, this period can be advantageous to EN's.

- > EN's who would be eligible for SSDI Milestone 3 or Milestone 4 under the old regulations in July or August may want to submit those requests during the Gap to receive the higher Milestone payments (\$1,334 or \$1,668 vs. \$1,177).

- EN's ***WILL NOT*** be disadvantaged by the Gap. EN's will have the choice of:
  - a) Waiting until October to submit payment requests for July and August
  - b) Receiving old regulation payments for July and August
- EN's who opt to receive old regulation payments for July and August will have their payments adjusted when each Ticket is transitioned.