

What is the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI)?

The goal of the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) is to encourage American Job Centers (AJCs) to improve education, training, and employment outcomes for people with disabilities (PWD). There are three groups of focus: 1) adults (ages 18 and older) with visible and non-visible disabilities, including injury and age-related; 2) youth (ages 14-24) with visible and non-visible disabilities, including chronic health conditions; and 3) individuals (ages 14 and older) with significant disabilities. The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration and the Office of Disability Employment Policy fund the DEI.

DEI objectives:

- Strong, partnerships;
- Job-driven methods in career pathways;
- Physical, program and communication access for PWD;
- Leveraging resources;
- Flexible plans for training, supportive services, and workplace strategies;
- The public workforce development system's ability to promote Employment Networks (ENs)
- System change.

For more on the Disability Employment Initiative, visit:

<https://www.doleta.gov/disability/DEI.cfm>

What is the Disability Employment Accelerator (DEA)?

- Funded by the Governor's 15% discretionary funds.
- Builds on the best practices of the DEI and helps sustain system change.
- Boosts contact with businesses for stronger partnerships.
- Funds workshops on disability awareness and hiring PWD.
- Increases training opportunities for PWD including work-based training.

For more on the Disability Employment Accelerator, visit:

http://www.edd.ca.gov/jobs_and_training/pubs/wsin16-41.pdf

What is an Employment Network (EN)? What is the Ticket to Work Program?

An EN is an organization or employment professional who enters into an agreement with the Social Security Administration (Social Security) to give and/or oversee employment services to Social Security disability beneficiaries. Once the beneficiary finds and keeps employment, Social Security pays the EN through a series of Milestone and Outcome payments. The EN revenue is discretionary.

For more on ENs, visit:

<https://yourtickettowork.ssa.gov/web/ttw/becoming-an-en>

<https://nenaticket.org/>

The Ticket to Work program is a free program that may help Social Security disability beneficiaries go to work, begin a career, and become financially independent.

Ticket to Work gives beneficiaries access to meaningful work with the help of service providers called ENs.

For more on the Ticket to Work program visit:

<https://choosework.ssa.gov/>

<https://www.ssa.gov/work/>

The EDD is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Requests for services, aids, and/or alternate formats need to be made by calling 916-654-7799 (voice). TTY users, please call the California Relay Service at 711.