A Guide to Accessing Employment Supports from the RI Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

**Referral**
Referrals can be initiated to DDD by self/family, school or agency.

**Eligibility Determination**

**Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)**

**Resource Allocation/Tiers**
(Medicaid Waiver application completed if eligible)
A portion or all of funds assigned can be used to pay for ongoing employment supports.

**NOTE**
Individuals may also be eligible for short-term employment services through Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS).

**Identify employment goal & support needs.**
Consider the following:
- What type of work would you like to do? Do you prefer to work for a company or be self-employed?
- Do you want to work full-time?
- How will you get to work?
- Do you need support to identify or reach your goal?

**Choose how to manage your funds and services.**

**Person/Family Managed**
You can choose **Self-Directed Supports**, a service that allows the person/family to manage how funds are spent, hire the person/agency to provide services, and control the services provided. To learn more about Self-Directed Supports and how some individuals/families are using these supports, go to [www.sdsri.net](http://www.sdsri.net). A detailed factsheet is also available from the Sherlock Center.

**OR**
**Agency Managed**
You can choose one of RI’s many agencies to manage your funds and provide services. Investigate agencies to determine the type of employment/job options offered and supports provided.

**STRETCH YOUR DOLLARS!**
Investigate other resources such as Office of Rehabilitation Services, netWORKri, and the Social Security Administration to fund short-term employment services, job development, job retention, career planning, training/education, assistive technology/equipment, etc.
You can change how funds are managed as your needs and goals change. Contact DDD to initiate a change.

**Write a Plan & Start Services**
Whether you choose the Person/Family Driven or Agency Driven method to managing funds and services, you will need to develop a plan for services. Plans are approved by DDD.

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Transition and Community Resources

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA)

WORK INCENTIVES
Ticket to Work & Work Incentives Planning Assistance (WIPA)
SSA encourages SSI and SSDI recipients to work. Work Incentives address financial and health insurance concerns. If you are working, or seriously considering working, get started by contacting the Helpine, visiting the SSA Choose Work website, or attending a public information session.

Helpine
The Helpine provides basic work incentive information and will refer you to an employment network and/or WIPA.
Help Line: 1-866-968-7842 (Toll Free) 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)

SSA Choose Work
www.choosework.net/

Working While Disabled—How We Can Help

Social Security Redbook
www.ssa.gov/redbook/

Work Incentives Public Information Sessions
www.sherlockcenter.org

Sherlock Plan - Medicaid Buy-In
The Medicaid Buy-In law, also known as the Sherlock Act or Plan, allows qualified Rhode Islanders receiving SSI or SSDI payments to continue receiving government-subsidized health coverage in the form of Medicaid even if they return to work and exceed the current income and resource eligibility thresholds. http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/TheSherlockPlan.aspx

EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

DHS - Office of Rehabilitation Services
40 Fountain Street, Providence, RI 02903
Phone: (401) 421-7005, (401) 421-7016 (TDD), (401) 462-7791(Spanish)
www.ors.ri.gov

netWORKri - RIDLT ONE-STOP CAREER CENTERS
www.networkri.org

- Providence
  One Reservoir Ave, Providence, RI 02907
  Phone: (401) 462-8900, TTY via Relay: 711

- West Warwick
  1330 Main Street, West Warwick, RI 02893
  Phone: (401) 462-4100, TTY via Relay: 711

- Woonsocket
  219 Pond St, Woonsocket, RI 02895
  Phone: (401) 235-1201, TTY via Relay: 711

- Wakefield
  4808 Tower Hill Rd., Wakefield, RI 02879
  Phone: (401) 782-4359, TTY via Relay: 711

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of Student, Community and Academic Supports (OSCAS)
www.ride.ri.gov
Transition Coordinator: (401) 222-8350

RI Regional Transition Centers and Regional Vocational Assessment Centers
- East Bay
  317 Market Street, Warren, RI 02885
  Phone: (401) 245-4998
  www.ebecri.org

- Northern RI
  640 George Washington Hwy, Bldg B, Suite 200, Lincoln, RI 02865
  Phone: (401) 495-2000
  www.nritic.org

- Southern RI
  859 Nooseneck Hill Road, West Greenwich, RI 02817
  Email: kcollins@nritic.org

- Providence
  434 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908
  Phone: (401) 456-9230
  www.providencetransition.wikispaces.com

- West Bay
  144 Bignall Street, Warwick RI 02888
  Phone: (401) 941-8353
  http://www.westbaycollaborative.org/

FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities
Rhode Island College, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908-1991
Phone: (401) 456-8072
TTY via RI Relay: 711 or 1-800-745-5555
Spanish via RI Relay: 711 or 1-866-355-9294
www.sherlockcenter.org

RI Parent Information Network
1210 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston RI 02920
Phone: (401) 270-0101
www.ripin.org

ADVOCACY

RI Disability Law Center (RIDLC)
275 Westminster St, Suite 401
Providence, RI 02903-3434
Phone: (401) 831-3150, (401) 831-5335 (TTY), 1-800-733-5332 (Toll Free)
www.ridlc.org

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