

# **PABSS**

## **Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (SSI and SSDI)**

### **You Can Work and Keep Your Health Benefits**

[www.DRTx.org](http://www.DRTx.org)

### **What is PABSS?**

The Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) program was established under the *Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999*. Funded by the Social Security Administration, the PABSS program protects the legal rights of Social Security beneficiaries in their efforts to return to work. The program is administered by Disability Rights Texas, the federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency (P&A) for people with disabilities in Texas.

### **What Services Are Available Through PABSS?**

The PABSS program provides information and advice about obtaining vocational rehabilitation and employment services, as well as advocacy and other services to help beneficiaries find work for the first time or return to work.

How PABSS advocates can help you:

- Provide information about programs, services and supports available to help you return to work.
- Provide information about available work incentives that may help you obtain meaningful employment.
- Assist with or refer you to professionals who can explain how returning to work will affect your benefits.
- Assist with any problems you have obtaining the services and support you need to return to work.
- Advocate on your behalf to resolve conflicts with service providers and employers as you try to return to work.
- Help resolve Social Security Administration disputes involving work-related decisions, including overpayments that are a barrier to obtaining employment.

## **Who Is Eligible for PABSS Services?**

- Social Security beneficiaries receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Social Security beneficiaries needing information about how returning to work will affect their benefits
- Social Security beneficiaries having trouble obtaining rehabilitation or other employment-related services or supports they need to return to work, including employer accommodations

## **How Do I Contact a PABSS Advocate?**

Statewide Intake Line for New Callers  
1-800-252-9108

Online Intake Available 24/7  
intake.drTx.org

Toll-Free Line for Current Clients  
1-800-315-3876

Statewide Videophone  
1-866-362-2851

Headquarters  
2222 West Braker Lane  
Austin, Texas 78758  
(512) 454-4816

## **About Disability Rights Texas**

Disability Rights Texas is the federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency (P&A) for people with disabilities in Texas. Our mission is to help people with disabilities understand and exercise their rights under the law, ensuring their full and equal participation in society.

Disability Rights Texas administers the PABSS program in Texas. Our PABSS advocates can help you break through barriers to help you find work for the first time or return to work.

For more information on the scope of our services, visit [www.DRTx.org](http://www.DRTx.org).

## **Disability Rights Texas**

Protecting and advocating for the rights of Texans with disabilities —  
because all people have dignity and worth

*The Social Security Administration has reviewed this document for technical accuracy only; it should not be considered an official SSA document.*