

Transforming
Lives

Benefits Planning With DVR



Benefits Planning Services-Washington State

DVR Benefits Planners can serve:

- Customers found **Eligible for DVR services**
- Customers developing an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) with DVR **AND**
- **Who are recipients of Social Security benefits and/or other income-based public benefits.**

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ra/division-vocational-rehabilitation/benefits-planning>

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ra/division-vocational-rehabilitation/benefit-calculators>



DVR Division
of Vocational
Rehabilitation

Value of Benefits Planning

- There is a lot of miscommunication and misunderstanding in the community regarding Social Security benefits.
- There are many different kinds of Social Security benefits. Depending on a person's work goal the Social Security cash benefit and medical coverage **could stay the same, be reduced, or even be terminated.**
- Each person's benefit situation is different from another.
- Benefits planning meetings are individualized for each person's situation and goals.

Value of Benefits Planning

- New processes and income limits are changed or added throughout the year
- If a new rule or process is missed, your SSA benefits could be negatively impacted.
- **DVR Benefits Planners stay up-to-date with program and process changes** to better help serve you

Value of Benefits Planning

Social Security has special financial rules that allow beneficiaries the ability to increase their overall income from work while also protecting some or maybe all, of their benefits.

Benefits planners can help figure out if these rules apply to a beneficiary's situation.

Some important things benefits planners will ask about beneficiaries situations are:

- Are they a student?
- Do they have expenses related to their disability?
- Will they have a long term job coach?

Benefits Planning Team

- The benefits planning team is made up of **Certified Benefits Planners. Including a Spanish speaking Planner to help those who need information in Spanish**
- We utilize a document from Social Security called a Benefits Planning Query (BPQY) which outlines the benefits you may receive
- The benefits planner will individualize the meeting based on what the BPQY shows and information confirmed by the beneficiary.

Getting Started

Speak with your Regional Transition Consultant about applying for DVR services!

Be sure to mention that you have Social Security Benefits and would like to meet with a benefits planner once you are eligible.

Thank you!

Questions?

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