



## Partnerships that work for people who want to work



Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program



Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services



Ala-WIN of Central and Northern Alabama



Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services  
BAMAWORKS



MAPS Navigators (DPN)  
A project of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and Easter Seals of Birmingham

## Alabama SSA Disability Partnership Initiative

### MAPS Navigators (DPN)

- A project of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and Easter Seals of Birmingham

### Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG)

- Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services—BAMAWORKS

### Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)

- Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program, The University of Alabama—ADAP

### Work Incentives Planning & Assistance (WIPA)

- Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
- Ala-WIN of Central and Northern Alabama

# Go to Work - Partnering for Success!

Education, Advocacy, Outreach and Planning for Individuals receiving SSA benefits who want to work



If you receive SSDI or SSI and want to go to work but are afraid of what will happen to your cash benefits and health care, there is help available.

Alabama has Disability Program Navigator Programs, WIPA grants, a PABSS program and a MIG Grant—all designed to provide education, outreach and planning to SSA beneficiaries who want to work.

These are no-cost services and each program works collaboratively with the other to ensure that beneficiaries get the answers and help they need. Together, these organizations form the Alabama SSA Disability Partnership Initiative.

Alternative formats are available upon request.

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## What is WIPA?

WIPA is a new SSA funded grantee program to assist SSA disability beneficiaries with information about work incentives, benefits planning, and making good choices about work.

Each WIPA is staffed with Community Work Incentive Coordinators (CWICs) certified to:

- Provide work incentives planning and assistance;
- Help beneficiaries and their families determine eligibility for Federal or State work incentives programs;
- Refer beneficiaries with disabilities to appropriate Employment Networks or State VR agencies based on individual needs and impairment types;
- Provide general information about potential employer-based or federally subsidized health benefits coverage available to beneficiaries once they enter the workforce; and
- Inform beneficiaries with disabilities of further protection and advocacy services available to them.



### How to contact WIPA staff

**Ala-WIN of Central and Northern Alabama**  
 1-888-803-0118  
[www.alawin.org](http://www.alawin.org)  
 (North of Autauga and Elmore Counties)

**Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services**  
 1-877-816-4602  
[www.rehab.state.al.us](http://www.rehab.state.al.us)  
 (South of Autauga and Elmore Counties)

## What is PABSS?

There is a Protection and Advocacy (P&A) agency in every State and U.S. territory that protects the rights of individuals with disabilities. Alabama's P&A agency is ADAP (Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program). Each of the 57 P&A's administers the Social Security Administration-funded Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) program. ADAP can:

- Check out complaints against an employment network/service provider,
- Provide information and advice about VR, employment services, and SSA's work incentives to help you return to work,
- Provide consultation and legal representation to protect your rights,
- Help you with problems concerning your individual work plan.

These services are free to persons receiving SSDI or SSI benefits based on disability.

### How to contact PABSS staff

Call 1-800-826-1675.

## What is MIG?

- Funded through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicaid Infrastructure Grant, the goal is to support persons with disabilities by: providing outreach and education regarding work incentives and support services.
- Identifying and developing strategies to eliminate barriers to employment by working to improve and expand competitive integrated employment opportunities, partnerships, and advocacy.
- Increasing employment opportunities and outcomes by expanding employment network and Personal Assistant Service (PAS) utilization and capacity.

### How to contact MIG staff

Call the Grant Coordinator at 1-800-441-7607.

## What is the Disability Program Navigator (DPN)?

The Disability Program Navigator (DPN) is a collaborative project between the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and Easter Seals of the Birmingham Area for the Alabama Career Center System. The overall goal is to ensure access to programs and services for persons with disabilities which will assist in facilitating their successful employment. This initiative was established by the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Department of Labor. There are five regional DPN staff. Contact the state coordinator to find out how to contact your local DPN.

**Call the DPN Coordinator at**  
 205-994-4148.

### Alabama SSA Disability Partnership Initiative

So, how do you know which organization can help?

The chart below can help explain the functions of the various members of the Alabama SSA Disability Partnership Initiative

Service	MIG	PABSS	WIPA	DPN
Provide direct benefits counseling to SSA recipients who want to work			✓	
Provide advocacy and legal advice		✓		
Service coordination with other providers			✓	✓
Outreach, education and training	✓	✓	✓	✓
Information and referral	✓	✓	✓	✓
Training and outreach to employers	✓			✓
Assist with SSA overpayments (only if a direct barrier to work)		✓		