

**§411.515**

decides to assign the ticket to the State VR agency.

**§411.515 Can the EN change its elected payment system?**

(a) Yes. Any change by an EN in its elected EN payment system will apply to beneficiaries who assign their ticket to the EN after the EN's change in election becomes effective. A change in the EN's election will become effective with the first day of the month following the month in which the EN notifies us of the change. For beneficiaries who already assigned their ticket to the EN under the EN's earlier elected payment system, the EN's earlier elected payment system will continue to apply. These rules also apply to a change by a State VR agency in its elected EN payment system for cases in which the State VR agency serves a beneficiary as an EN.

(b) After an EN (or a State VR agency) first elects an EN payment system, the EN (or State VR agency) can choose to make one change in its elected payment system at any time prior to the close of which of the following is later:

(1) The 12th month following the month in which the EN (or State VR agency) first elects an EN payment system; or

(2) The 12th month following the month in which we implement the Ticket to Work program in the State in which the EN (or State VR agency) operates.

(c) After an EN (or a State VR agency) first elects a payment system, as part of signing the EN agreement with us (for State VR agencies, see §411.365), the EN (or State VR agency) will have the opportunity to change from its existing elected payment system during times announced by us. We will offer the opportunity for each EN (and State VR agency) to make a change in its elected payment system at least every 18 months.

**§411.520 How are beneficiaries whose tickets are assigned to an EN affected by a change in that EN's elected payment system?**

A change in an EN's (or State VR agency's) elected payment system has no effect upon the beneficiaries who

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have assigned their ticket to the EN (or State VR agency).

**§411.525 How are the EN payments calculated under each of the two EN payment systems?**

(a) For payments for outcome payment months, both EN payment systems use the payment calculation base as defined in §411.500(a)(1) or (a)(2), as appropriate.

(1)(i) Under the outcome payment system, we can pay up to 60 monthly payments to the EN. For each month for which Social Security disability benefits and Federal SSI cash benefits are not payable to the individual because of work or earnings, the EN is eligible for a monthly outcome payment. Payment for an outcome payment month under the outcome payment system is equal to 40 percent of the payment calculation base for the calendar year in which such month occurs, rounded to the nearest whole dollar. (See §411.550.)

(ii) If a disabled beneficiary's entitlement to Social Security disability benefits ends (see §§404.316(b), 404.337(b) and 404.352(b) of this chapter) or eligibility for SSI benefits based on disability or blindness terminates (see §416.1335 of this chapter) because of the performance of SGA or by reason of earnings from work activity, we will consider any month after the month with which such entitlement ends or eligibility terminates to be a month for which Social Security disability benefits and Federal SSI cash benefits are not payable to the individual because of work or earnings if—

(A) The individual has gross earnings from employment (or net earnings from self-employment as defined in §416.1110(b) of this chapter) in that month that are more than the SGA threshold amount in §404.1574(b)(2) of this chapter (or in §404.1584(d) of this chapter for an individual who is statutorily blind); and

(B) The individual is not entitled to any monthly benefits under title II or eligible for any benefits under title XVI for that month.

(2) Under the outcome-milestone payment system, we can pay the EN for up to four milestones achieved by a beneficiary who has assigned his or her