

About DRNJ

Disability Rights New Jersey is a private, nonprofit, consumer-directed organization that serves as New Jersey's federally funded protection and advocacy system for individuals with disabilities. DRNJ advocates for and protects the rights of persons with disabilities through a broad range of legal and advocacy services.

This brochure is available in Spanish and alternate, accessible formats.

For assistance and information, please call DRNJ's toll-free number:

(800) 922-7233

(New Jersey only)

or

(609) 292-9742

(609) 777-0187 (Fax)

(609) 633-7106 (TTY)

TTY users may also call the

NJ Relay at: 711

www.drnj.org



Disability Rights New Jersey
210 South Broad Street, 3rd Floor
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

Joseph B. Young
Executive Director

The Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) program and this brochure are funded by the United States Social Security Administration.

Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security



*Advocating
and advancing
the human,
civil and legal
rights of persons
with disabilities*

What is the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) Program?

The New Jersey Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) program is a federally funded program authorized by the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999. The Act authorized the Social Security Administration (SSA) to fund each state's P&A system to provide "Work Incentives Assistance" to SSDI and SSI beneficiaries seeking vocational rehabilitation, employment and other support services to secure, retain or regain employment.

PABSS provides:

- individual representation and assistance,
- protection of rights,
- information and referral for SSA beneficiaries,
- information and referral for non-beneficiaries, and
- systems advocacy.

When Should I Contact PABSS?

You should contact PABSS if you are an SSA beneficiary, family member, individual with a disability(ies), employer, attorney, government agency, service provider, community organization, or advocacy group and:

- you need education and training about employment, work incentives, and other work related issues, including available civil rights protections under law.
- you need information or referral related to the services and assistance that may be available to SSA beneficiaries in return to work efforts, including methods to apply for and access those services.

SSA beneficiaries should also contact PABSS if they need help with:

- investigating or filing a complaint of improper or inadequate service assistance involving a vocational provider, work incentive planner, employer or other entity involved with return to work efforts.
- the resolution of complaints through mediation, negotiation or other good faith dispute resolution efforts.
- legal counsel and litigation services when such services become necessary to protect your rights as an SSA beneficiary under the law.
- disputes before SSA involving work-related decisions and benefits overpayments that are a barrier to employment.

Where is the PABSS Program Located?

The **PABSS** program is an integral part of **Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ)**, which is located in Trenton, New Jersey at 210 South Broad Street.

In addition to the **PABSS** Program, DRNJ operates the following programs:

- Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (**PADD**)
- Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (**PAIMI**)
- Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (**PAIR**)
- Client Assistance Program (**CAP**)
- Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (**PATBI**)
- Protection and Advocacy for Voter Access (**PAVA**)
- Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology (**PAAT**)
- The Assistive Technology Advocacy Center (**ATAC**)
- Health Care Consumer Assistance

Disability Rights New Jersey is an Equal Opportunity Employer and provides services to all individuals with disabilities regardless of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, marital status, familial status, sex, sexual or affectional orientation, ancestry or disability. Any concerns regarding the agency's compliance with these non-discrimination efforts may be brought to the attention of the Executive Director