

How Can F-BIRN Help?

The objective of the Florida Benefits Information Resource Network (F-BIRN) is to assist people with disabilities in locating and utilizing professionals who are trained to assist people in effectively managing their benefits. For a listing of current members, go to <http://apd.myflorida.com/employment/fbirn.htm>

Florida Benefits Information
Resource Network

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

[http://apd.myflorida.com/
employment/fbirn.htm](http://apd.myflorida.com/employment/fbirn.htm)

or call

850.414.5876

850.488.9546

Place your business card here

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Florida
Benefits
Information
Resource
Network



What is F-BIRN?

F-BIRN is composed of a diverse group of federal, state and local employees who have completed intensive training through the National Disability Institute. Benefit professionals include:

- **Work Incentives Planning Assistance- WIPAs**
(Subcontractors with SSA)
- **Work Incentives Liaisons**
(Located in SSA field offices)
- **Plan for Achieving Self - Support (PASS) Cadre,**
(Located in Birmingham, AL)
- **Area Work Incentives Coordinators-AWICs**
(Located in Tampa and Brevard)
- **Protection and Advocacy of Beneficiaries of Social Security**
(Housed in the Advocacy Center offices throughout FL)

Checklist for Success

- When you call SSA (1-800-772-1213) keep a record:
 - Date
 - Name of person you spoke to
 - What you asked
 - What they told you
- Make copies of all documents you get from and give to SSA. Do not LOSE your copies!!
- Promptly open and read **ALL** mail sent by SSA. Compliance with deadline response dates is required. Seek help immediately. Keep **ALL** paperwork, letters, and mailing envelopes in your file. ***Do Not Lose!!!!***
- Report pay stubs each month to SSA. Be sure to report to correct field office (Zip Code of the payee is the key). Report by mail, fax, or in person. **Keep** wage records in your file. If on SSI & SSDI, report to each program separately.
- If a person receives SSI and/or Medicaid, remember to keep all resources/assets below \$2,000/individual \$3,000/couple in any month to maintain eligibility.
- When a major life change occurs (address, marriage/divorce, employment/loss of job, children, etc.) report to SSA immediately, both to 1-800-772-1213 and to the local SSA field office.

Helpful Resources

Agency for Persons with Disabilities

<http://apd.myflorida.com>

Agency for Workforce Innovation

www.floridajobs.org

Department of Children and Families

www.myflorida.com/cf_web

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

www.rehabworks.org

National Disability Institute

www.ndi-inc.org

Protection and Advocacy

www.advocacycenter.org

Social Security Administration

www.ssa.gov

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