Ohio College2Careers

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) is the state agency that empowers Ohioans with disabilities through employment, disability determinations, and independence. It is accomplished through its Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR), Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired (BSVI), and Division of Disability Determination (DDD). A fourth area is the Division of Employer and Innovation Services (EIS), which is responsible for establishing and maintaining partnerships with employers.

Ohio College2Careers

OOD offers Ohio College2Careers at 15 public colleges and universities in Ohio to ensure students with disabilities have the support they need to complete their degree and/or credential, earn higher wages, and meet the demands of tomorrow's labor market.

Dedicated Career Counselors

A full-time dedicated OOD vocational rehabilitation counselor is immersed within the disability services office at partnering colleges to assist students with disabilities. The counselor is able to provide career counseling and purchase additional services and supports that assist students with disabilities to stay in school, successfully complete their degree, and obtain employment post-graduation.

Services may include the following:

- Career exploration and counseling
- Assistive technology
- Resume and interview preparation
- Placement in paid internships
- Placement services for permanent employment after graduation
- Supports and accommodations necessary for internships and permanent employment
- Tools and licenses for employment

Connection to Expansive Employer Partner Network

OOD's Division of Employer and Innovation Services has an established Business Relations Team to meet the needs of employers who are committed to building and maintaining a diverse and inclusive workforce that includes individuals with disabilities. The team has two dedicated Career Development Specialists who work directly with the disability and career services staff at these partnering colleges to promote hiring of students with disabilities for internships and permanent placement opportunities.

*Locations:

Bowling Green State University	Central Ohio Technical College	Columbus State Comm. College
Cuyahoga Community College	Kent State University	Lorain County Comm. College
Miami University	The Ohio State University	The Ohio University
Stark State College	The University of Akron	University of Cincinnati
University of Toledo	Wright State University	Youngstown State University

Applying for Services

A student with a disability who is interested in applying for VR services can begin the process by visiting the dedicated OOD vocational rehabilitation counselor in the disability services office. *Any student with a disability, at a participating OhioCollege2Careers campus or any Ohio college, can visit www.OODWorks.com. This website provides information about OOD's services and includes a self-assessment designed to assist the individual to decide if vocational rehabilitation services are the right fit.

Programs provided by Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) are funded, in whole or in part, with federal grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

For purposes of the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program, including Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), OOD received 78.7% of its funding through the DOE VR grant. In Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2019, OOD received $99,548,657 in federal funds. Funds appropriated by the State covered 21.3 % of the total costs, or $26,942,648. Of these federal funds, $14,932,299 is set aside for Pre-ETS.

For purposes of the Supported Employment (SE) Program, the DOE SE grant funded 90% of the costs for the Supported Employment for Youth with a Disability Program up to the grant amount and 100% of the costs of regular Supported Employment program costs up to the grant amount. In FFY 2019, OOD received $297,857 for SE Youth with a Disability and State appropriated funds paid a small amount more than the remaining 10% or $33,192 of the total costs. In FFY 2019, OOD received $297,857 in regular SE grant funds.

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
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