

Do You Have a Communication Disability?



If you have a diagnosed communication disability, you can voluntarily enroll in a database that connects to the Law Enforcement Agencies Data System (LEADS). Through this data system, law enforcement is made aware that the driver, or a person in the vehicle, may have difficulty communicating with an officer.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Am I required to identify as a person with a communication disability?**

No, identification is voluntary.

- **How will law enforcement know I have a communication disability?**

If pulled over, police officers will be alerted through LEADS that you have a communication disability when they enter the license plate number into their system.

- **Will police officers know what type of communication disability I have?**

No. Due to confidentiality, police officers will not have that information. They will only know that the registered person, or someone who frequently travels in the vehicle, has a communication disability.

- **Do I have to disclose personal medical information in order to identify as someone with a communication disability?**

No, you do not have to disclose personal medical information. However, a licensed practitioner must sign the Communication Disability Verification Form to verify that you have a diagnosed condition.



- **How do I identify as a person with a communication disability?**

You may download the Verification Form from the OOD website by visiting ood.ohio.gov, click on the Information tab, then click on the Communication Disability Law tab to find the Verification Form. Applicants may mail a completed form to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles/ Vehicle Information Services, P.O. Box 16521, Columbus, Ohio 43216-6521, or scan and email to VIS-Administration@dps.ohio.gov, or deliver to any Deputy Registrar.

- **How will I know that my communication disability form has been received?**

You will receive a confirmation receipt sent to the email address you provided on the form.

For additional questions, please contact:

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

150 E. Campus View Blvd., Suite 300

Contact Phone: 614-438-1203

www.ood.ohio.gov/Information/Communication-Disability-Law

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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. For purposes of the Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who are Blind (OIB) Program, the federal grant received from DOE in FFY 2019 paid 90% of the total costs incurred under the program. In FFY 2019, OOD received \$1,153,208 in federal grant funds. Funds appropriated by the State paid over the 10% required match or \$130,000 of the total costs incurred under the OIB program. For purposes of the Independent Living (IL) Program, the federal grant received from HHS paid 90% of the total costs incurred in FFY 2019. In FFY 2019, OOD received funding of \$640,571. Funds appropriated by the State paid 10% or \$71,175 of the total costs incurred under the IL Program.