

OOD Jobs for Recovery

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) helps individuals with disabilities, including substance use disorders, find employment. OOD Jobs for Recovery places a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) as an active member of a drug court interdisciplinary team. Employment is an important part of recovery and rapid engagement is a key component to an individual's success.

Governor Mike DeWine's budget for fiscal years 2022-2023 invests in individuals with disabilities, including participants in Ohio's certified specialized dockets (drug courts). This program, called OOD Jobs for Recovery, will support the recovery of individuals served by providing:

- Rapid engagement in OOD vocational rehabilitation services,
- Timely access to job placement services,
- On-the-job supports and retention services, and
- Funding to meet additional needs such as transportation and work clothes.

Program Highlights

Each participating county will receive (at no cost to you):

- A full-time dedicated team of OOD staff who will be immersed (headquartered) with your court or a treatment team partner for the specialized docket. OOD staff assigned to the caseload will attend treatment team meetings and court proceedings for the specialty courts. The team has the capacity to serve approximately 100 individuals annually. Depending on the needs of your county, this team may consist of:
- A VRC to serve a caseload that is dedicated to individuals involved with the certified specialized dockets in your county.
 - A Job Developer to provide immediate access to job placement assistance when the individual is ready for employment.

In addition, 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. Individuals participating in the OOD Jobs for Recovery Program will have access to a network of more than 500 inclusive employers.

For this partnership to be successful, we need a commitment from you to:

- Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to include dedicated and accessible office space, with access to wireless/internet, etc., located in or near the courthouse or treatment provider for OOD staff to meet with individuals served by the drug court
- Fully include OOD staff in the interdisciplinary team for the specialized dockets
- Coordinate referrals to OOD staff
- Provide accelerated access to available diagnostic information to document eligibility for services

For more information, please contact Jan Mader at 614-438-1790 or janice.mader@ood.ohio.gov or visit <https://ood.ohio.gov/Job sforRecovery>.

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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) 2021, OOD received \$105,851,903 in federal funds. Funds appropriated by the State covered 21.3 % of the total costs, or \$28,648,609. Of these federal funds, \$15,877,785 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 2021, OOD received \$299,041 for SE Youth with a Disability, and State appropriated funds paid the remaining 10%, or \$32,933 of the total costs. In FFY 2021, OOD received \$335,518 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 2021 paid 90% of the total costs incurred under the program. In FFY 2021, OOD received \$1,139,118 in federal grant funds. Funds appropriated by the State paid over the 10% required match, or \$126,568 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 2021. In FFY 2021, OOD received \$638,013 in federal grant funds. Funds appropriated by the State paid over the 10% of the match required or \$70,268 of the total costs incurred under the IL Program.