

# OPRA FRIDAY 5

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JUNE 2, 2023

**Vaccine Requirements:** Last week CMS finally released their unpublished version of their Final Rule regarding staff vaccination requirements. The rule will be published to the Federal Registry on June 5, 2023 and will be effective 60 days after that. The rule is titled [Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Policy and Regulatory Changes to the Omnibus COVID-19 Health Care Staff Vaccination Requirements; etc.](#) As anticipated, this rule addresses the vaccination and testing requirements that were previously issued. Here are some initial takeaways regarding this rule;

- Withdraws the vaccination requirements set forth in the IFR “Omnibus COVID-19 Health Care Staff Vaccination”. Although this rule does not become effective until 60 days after publishing, CMS states that they will no longer be enforcing the vaccination requirement, effective immediately.
- The rule finalizes some of the provisions around providing education regarding COVID-19 vaccines as well as risks and benefits for residents and staff (most of you already have this in your policies and procedures).

This new rule is a direct result of all the advocacy efforts of the past year. We thank you for your diligence and willingness to provide those comments.

**Draft Rules:** [Last Friday, the Department released several draft rules.](#) One set of rules deals with the transition from Appendix K flexibilities. The other set of rules that were released surround proposed changes to Shared Living, including allowing shared living and residential respite to be delivered on the same day, and allowing times when parents can be paid caregivers of their minor children. We will be seeking any comment that our members have regarding these rules and the proposed changes. Please feel free to submit comment to either [Rachel](#) or [Christine](#) and we will begin compiling those comment for submission. Comments for the rule are due by June 12th so we are asking if possible to get comments to us by the 10th.

**Budget Update:** House Bill 33, the state operating budget bill, has been reviewed by relevant committees in Ohio's Senate through invited and public testimony hearings. We expect a sub-bill introduced sometime early the week of June 5th, in which we hope to protect and build on the rate increases passed by Ohio's House.

**ADS Quality Pilot:** The stakeholder workgroup coordinating the implementation of an upcoming 'Quality Pilot Project' for Adult Day Services concluded its work this week, coming to consensus on a set of measures and data collection strategies. DODD is looking to roll out this pilot, as well as the Employment Services Pilot project in October of this year, hoping to work with as many as 150 providers on the project. [The Project Draft Implementation Guide can be found here.](#) Please reach out to Scott with any questions or feedback on this project.

**OOD Projects:** We had the opportunity to meet with the leadership at OOD in preparation for implementation of their expected budget increases. OOD is looking to pay a 'SYWE Site Development' fee in July, as well as 2 rounds of the 'REACH 2.0' service later this year, as they bring together a provider workgroup to focus on changes to the VR fee schedule.



# In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

**Memo Monday/Pipeline:** Click here to download DODD's [Memo Monday](#), including information about the family engagement survey, behavior support workshops, new grant opportunities with DODD and DD Council, and more!

**Calling All Speakers!** OPRA is proud to announce that the call for session proposals is officially open for the 2023 OPRA Fall Conference. The conference will be in-person and hosted at Nationwide Conference Center on October 26th & 27th, 2023. We invite you to submit a thought-provoking, informative session with a clear outline of the tangible impact your presentation will have on attendees and their teams. [Click here to learn more.](#)



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## Upcoming Events

[6/6: OPRA District 3 Meeting](#)

[6/8: OPRA Health Care Committee Meeting](#)

[6/10: Breaking the Label's 3rd Annual All Abilities Gala](#)

[Click here for DODD June Trainings](#)

## News & Resources

["Outcome Tracking System 2021 Data Analysis from Day Array Committee"](#)

["City of Toledo announces its inaugural Disabled and Proud Festival"](#)

["US employers boost hiring in May, but labor market losing steam"](#)

["Five Reasons Disability Inclusion Just Makes Sense"](#)

