

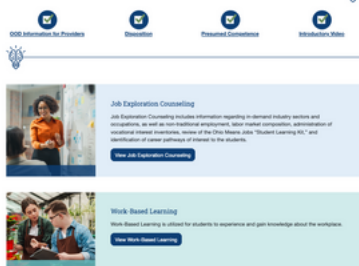
OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

AUGUST 8, 2025

Pre-Employment Transition Services

Know Before You Go



PreETS: This week, OOD and OCALI began rolling out the recently developed curriculum for Pre-Employment Transition Services (PreETS). This [free curriculum can be accessed here](#) and includes all of the required components to provide and report on the service, as updated in the last fee schedule. While this curriculum was developed as a resource for PreETS providers, it is also a great resource for any employment or pre-vocational service provider.

Transformation to CIE Act: A few weeks back saw the introduction of the [Transformation to Competitive Integrated Employment Act](#), a bicameral, bipartisan bill that would aim to phase out 14(c) commensurate wages over 5 years. The bill, which also appropriates \$300 million for state and employer transformation efforts has been referred to committees in the House and Senate. Previous attempts by congress to pass this bill have stalled at the committee referral stage, but we will continue to track the legislation.

OOD Quarterly: This week OOD held their quarterly stakeholder meeting, which was most notable for the announcement of the retirement of Deputy Director Susan Pugh. Susan has been the deputy over the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR) and has played a major role in shaping OOD policies. We wish her the best in her retirement! During the meeting, OOD also shared news about a new 'Job Aid', intended to help clarify counselors and caseloads, as well as a new intake protocol to address VRC shortages in areas of the state. Reach out to [Scott](#) with questions or feedback about these new OOD procedures.



Committees: Thanks to everyone who participated in yesterday's Day Array Committee. We covered a lot of ground, including hosting guest Keith Banner from DODD, who shared information on upcoming Employment service-related RFPs-keep an eye out for upcoming Memo Mondays to learn more. We also covered updates from the policy committee, training opportunities, and the legislation listed above. Check back to the [OPRA website here](#), where we will be uploading the minutes and recording from the meeting. We will be holding meetings of the [Residential Resources Committee](#) on August 20th and the [Healthcare Committee](#) August 21st.

EVV Denials Reminder: DODD claims denials based on insufficient EVV units are scheduled to begin on October 1, 2025. Providers now only have two months remaining to get compliant or risk the financial impact of EVV-based denials. If you have any questions about EVV, please reach out to [Christine](#).



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: Click here to read this week's [DODD Memo Monday](#), including highlights from the state fair, info on the Medicaid Access Rule, the Rental Assistance Program, the 2025 Ohio Tech Summit in September, and the 2025 DODD Provider Training Series Session on Charting the LifeCourse Tools.



Award Nominations: This is a friendly reminder to submit your award nominations for the OPRA Annual Fall Awards! The Annual Awards Ceremony will be held at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris on Friday, October 24th. The OPRA awards represent more than just trophies or titles - they are symbols of the hard work, innovation, and a relentless pursuit of excellence to make a difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities. [Submit your nominations HERE](#) - Or, you can email your nomination(s) with the required information directly to [Sonya](#). Award Nominations must be submitted no later than Monday, August 18th. We look forward to receiving and reviewing your nominations!



Join us October 23–24, 2025, at the Hilton Polaris in Columbus, Ohio for our premier annual event bringing together providers, leaders, and innovators from across the state. Whether you're looking to expand your brand visibility, connect with Ohio's provider community, or support the work of disability service professionals, we have a sponsorship opportunity to fit your goals.

Explore opportunities including:

- Keynote & Headshot Sponsorships
- Casino Night & Relaxation Lounge
- Gold, Silver, and Bronze Levels
- Breakfast, Lunch, Awards Sponsorships

[Register to Exhibit/Sponsor](#)

Upcoming Events

[8/20: OPRA Residential Resources Committee](#)

[8/21: OPRA Healthcare Committee](#)

Click [here](#) for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

News & Resources

“Ohio property tax veto overrides will likely wait until fall”

“Child care centers often reject kids with disabilities. Ohio is working to change that”

“Senate appropriators pass \$116.6B HHS funding bill”

“Ohio's budget maintains funding for developmental disabilities”

