

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

August 28, 2026



Registration is officially open for this year's Annual Conference. The OPRA Annual Conference brings together providers, professionals, partners, and leaders from across Ohio's developmental disabilities community for education, connection, and collaboration.

Whether you are attending for professional development, networking, continuing education, or to explore new ideas and solutions, the OPRA Annual Conference offers valuable opportunities to learn, engage, and strengthen your connection to Ohio's provider community. This year's conference features keynote speaker [Magie Cook](#), as well as a performance from the OPRA All-Star Band! [Click here to learn more and register!](#)

Rule Comments: This week OPRA had the opportunity to provide comments on two rules being proposed by DODD. First, was the Technology First Rule, where DODD has proposed regulations regarding the use of cameras in a person's bedroom. Next was the Provider Certification rule, which DODD has proposed changes following a workgroup led throughout the summer. Though we support some of the changes, our comments on the latter mainly focused on new definitions and requirements for agency 'owners'. Thanks to both the Residential Resources and Policy Committees for the feedback and discussion that helped inform these comments. [Click here to read.](#)

ADS Guidance: Since the new ADS rule went into effect last month, we've gotten many questions about the requirement to document group sizes in ADS and Voc Hab services. We have asked for additional guidance from DODD about this requirement, especially as it applies to facility-based services where group size changes throughout the day. [This guidance addresses this question by stating that documenting group size inside the facility is "optional"](#) and that "documenting group size inside the facility is a good practice". The guidance states that documenting group size is required when billing the Integrated Community Setting rate and when services are delivered outside of a facility. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with additional questions.

Advocacy Army: Registration for Advocacy Army is now OPEN! During this training participants will learn the ins and outs of legislative advocacy, how to build compelling advocacy narratives, hear from advocacy veterans, and have the chance to meet with your members of the Ohio General Assembly. The training is designed for a broad array of provider audiences- including top management, front line supervisors, DSPs, people and families served, and even non-profit board members. This year's training includes two in-person training days (September 11th and 28th) and an event at the Ohio Statehouse (September 29th). Registration is \$150/attendee and includes lunch both in-person training days. Registration closes next Friday (9/4).

You can learn more about the curriculum and register [here](#).



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: Click here to read this week's [Memo Monday](#), including the Adult Day Support documentation guidance mentioned above, new training and resources on the Compliance review Tool and a mandatory training for SSAs on the expectations of waiver administration.

Compensation and Benefits Survey: The OPRA Compensation and Benefits Survey Final Report is now available for download or purchase. Participating members were emailed instructions on how to download the report earlier today. If you did not receive the email, please reach out to [Christine](#). If your organization did not participate, [the survey is available for purchase here](#). Access to the report is \$250 for OPRA members.



**NEW
SUPERVISOR
TRAINING**

Registration is open for OPRA's New Supervisor Training. Join OPRA President/CEO Pete Moore and Vice President Scott Marks for a practical training designed specifically for new supervisors. . If you're new to supervision, or looking to strengthen your leadership foundation, this session will give you practical tools you can use immediately. [Click here to learn more and register](#). Free for OPRA members!



HIPAA Risk Assessment Training: OPRA is pleased to host a six-part training with our partners at Guarded Edge. Participants will master the step-by-step process of conducting a fully HIPAA-compliant risk assessment. Every registered agency will receive the HIPAA-compliant risk assessment grid and a complete HIPAA security policy manual. Registration is \$500 but there is no cap on the number of employees an agency can send. You can learn more and register [here](#).

Upcoming Events

9/3: Day Array and Employment Services Joint Committee Meeting

9/9: HIPAA Risk Assessment 6-Part Workshop Series

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

News & Resources

"Rep. Dovilla Responds to Auditor's Findings on Medicaid Eligibility Verification"

"Co-creating a Conversation Skills Game With Young Adults With Intellectual Disabilities"

"Medicaid Fraud Enforcement in 2026: High-Risk Areas for Home Care, Behavioral Health and Skilled Nursing Providers"



REGISTER TODAY

SEPT 18, 2026

FROM 9:00AM-4:30PM

OCLC CONFERENCE CENTER
DUBLIN, OH

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES
TODAY AND TOMORROW: WHAT
THEY MEAN FOR ACCESSIBLE
TRANSPORTATION



MICHELLE M. FOWLER

DIRECTOR OF APPLIED
RESEARCH AT THE
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH
CENTER INC. (TRC)



FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION,
SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE OR VISIT

[GO.OSU.EDU/TECHSUMMIT](https://go.osu.edu/techsummit)

TECHSUMMIT 2026

Join us for an insightful
one-day conference
focused on technology use to
benefit individuals with
developmental disabilities



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
Assistive Technology of Ohio



Department of
Developmental
Disabilities
Technology First



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
NISONGER CENTER