**Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Council Meeting**

**Division of Employer and Innovation Services Update**

**January 20, 2021**

**2021 Virtual Hiring Events**

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) is planning several Virtual Hiring Events throughout 2021. In February, an event specifically for employers with work-from-home positions will be held. These virtual interviews will include positions for customer service representatives in the financial, security, and insurance industries.

A transition-focused event is planned for Spring to facilitate interviews for graduating high school students and students interested in part-time non-permanent employment. Two events are planned in the Spring and the Fall for Ohio College2Careers students for internship and permanent employment. An event focusing on participants served through the Jobs for Recovery program is planned for June. Employer recruitment will prioritize those employers who provide second chance opportunities. OOD will also host events for major employers with a large geographic presence, including retail, food service, and distribution centers. OOD also plans to celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October with regional virtual hiring events.

In 2020, OOD facilitated 460 interviews for 330 participants with 50 unique employers through multiple virtual hiring events.

**The Employer’s ADA Handbook Webinar Series**

On January 13, 2021, The Division of Employer and Innovation Services hosted the first webinar in a five-part series, [The Employers’ ADA Handbook](https://ood.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ood/information-for-employers/employer-resources/Employers-ADA-Handbook-Title-I-Overview), for 229 attendees. The first session, “Title I Overview,” educated employers about their responsibilities under Title I of the ADA, and the protections afforded to all applicants and employees with disabilities to prevent discrimination in employment. Upcoming webinars in this series are as follows:

**February 24 at 10 a.m**.: Reasonable Accommodations and Undue Hardship  
**March 24 at 10 a.m**.: Performance, Conduct, and Safety  
**April 28 at 10 a.m.**: Resources and Funding  
**May 26 at 10 a.m.**: Accessibility Hour with OOD

**Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment Survey**

The Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment Survey of individuals with disabilities will be distributed on January 19 via an email invitation to all participants with a Vocational Rehabilitation case closed between 10/1/18-9/30/20. A link to the survey will also be published on the homepage of the OOD website and promoted through OOD’s social media channels. We are also requesting various organizations who serve individuals with disabilities, including individuals who have not received OOD services, to assist in distributing the survey.