

Employment First & Advocacy Newsletter



Do you have questions about employment or advocacy?

Contact Tammy Smith, ACBDD Employment and Advocacy Coordinator at:

419-221-1262 ext. 2869 / tsmith@acbdd.org / call or text work cell phone 567-371-5233

Technology and Employment

In addition to being an Employment First state, Ohio is also a Technology First state. Technology can play a vital role in applying for work, preparing for work and performing job duties.

Every September, Ohio celebrates Ohio Tech Day on the last Friday of the month. Statewide, technology will be celebrated in schools, businesses and agencies.

The goal of Tech Day is to show how technology allows Ohioans to be competitive in the workforce.

Ohio jobseekers who are comfortable using technology have an advantage in a workforce that is ever changing.

Technology makes employment a possibility for many who thought they would not be able to work. Work from home options are becoming more available thanks to technology. Working from home helps reduce some barriers such as personal care needs and transportation as needs are met within their home.

Technology and Advocacy

Do you use technology to communicate or to be more independent? Or maybe you are not sure about technology and are a little nervous about it? Share your story!

The Ohio Tech Ambassadors want to hear stories from people with developmental disabilities and those who support them. In a short, one-on-one virtual interview, participants will help the Ambassadors understand community needs and the challenges people face when using technology.

Interview topics will include:

- Technology you use in your daily life
- What works well and what feels frustrating
- What you wish technology could do better
- Why you don't use technology

You do not need to be a technology expert. Your lived experience matters and may help others learn about tools that support independence, communication, safety, connection, and more.

To schedule an interview, visit ohiotechambassadors.org/interview/ or email info@ohiotechambassadors.org

(From DODD Memo Monday August 31, 2026)

Want to learn more about technology and explore items that may help you become more independent?

OICALI-Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence offers a lending library to try out devices and items. Find out more at <https://ocali.org/lending-library>

ACBDD-Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities also has Tech Experts and a Tech Library: <https://www.acbdd.org/technologyfirst>