

## Summer Youth 2021

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) offers summer youth services as part of the important career and personal development for youth with disabilities. In order for students, families, counselors, and providers to plan ahead for Summer Youth 2021, OOD is offering the following flexibilities in consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Summer Youth Work Experience Flexibilities**

Flexible Overall Scheduling – OOD is waiving the 5-week requirement of in person work experiences to allow for Summer Youth Work Experiences to be scheduled at 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5-week intervals.

Flexible Weekly Scheduling – OOD is waiving the 20-hour work week requirement in circumstances where an employer will not allow students on the work site in the community for this full duration, allowing providers to pro-rate the scheduled work week.

Streamlined Reporting – OOD is planning streamlined reporting based on last year's Summer Youth reporting, which is designed for greater provider ease, while still providing counselors the information they need regarding student services, participation, progress, and recommendations.

### **Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Flexibilities**

Remote Service Delivery - Pre-ETS will continue to be allowed to be provided remotely during Summer Youth 2021.

Increased Service Hours – While Pre-ETS are generally provided up to 8 hours per participant per service, OOD is allowing for students who have previously engaged in Pre-ETS to participate beyond those hours for up to 10 additional hours per service subcategory, should the counselor determine the student has a need. Pre-ETS can be valuable to students who have previously participated, as they may engage at a different developmental level than in the past and get more meaning out of additional activities in these areas.

Service Options – Pre-ETS has five different service subcategories, including Counseling on Postsecondary Opportunities, Instruction in Self-advocacy, Job Exploration Counseling, Work Based Learning, and Work Based Training.

On-demand Training – OOD offers on-demand [Pre-ETS training online](#) for providers who are not yet offering these services.

### **Participation in Summer Youth Services**

OOD will be having conversations with students and families about their preferences between in-person and remote service delivery options and make referrals accordingly. While OOD does not anticipate offering Summer Youth Foundations this summer, students will be able to participate in both Summer Youth Work Experience and Pre-ETS based on their needs, availability, and interests, which will make a comparable scope of services available for students. The option for students to participate in both work experiences and Pre-ETS may be particularly helpful to those students who participate in a work experience that is of shorter duration. OOD counselors will be reviewing the individual needs and choices of each participant when making referrals for service.

### **Additional Flexibilities**

While OOD is offering these flexibilities at this time to allow for planning, we understand that additional flexibilities may be required considering all circumstances as we move closer to the start of Summer Youth 2021. Please submit any additional considerations to [pcmu@ood.ohio.gov](mailto:pcmu@ood.ohio.gov).

OOD will provide a training on January 26, 2021 further detailing these flexibilities, as well as how to inform OOD of your service delivery offerings for students and families to make their informed service selections.