

An illustration of a person from the chest up, wearing a bright pink blazer with a white collar and a name tag. The person has dark brown hair. The background is light blue with some pink and yellow shapes at the bottom.

Employment First

means I am given a chance to think about having a job in the community as a first choice.

- Where do I want to work?
- What do I like to do?
- What am I good at?
- What are my goals?



www.ohioemploymentfirst.org

Person-Centered Planning Process

This is a meeting led by me with a team of people who are important to me. I can choose who I want to be at my meeting. During this planning meeting, my team and I will write a plan to help me figure out what I am good at, what I like, and what my job goals are. During this planning meeting, I can share my thoughts about what I want, and figure out what I might need to know in order help me make my own choices. I should get information about how working may change my benefits, and I should get a list of providers who can help me with this. This is my chance to speak up, ask questions, and tell others what I really want!

As part of my person-centered planning process, I can choose my job goal and where I am on the path to employment.

There are four (4) places on the path to employment:

- 1 I have a job but would like a better one or to move up.
- 2 I want a job! I need help to find one.
- 3 I'm not sure about work. I need help to learn more.
- 4 I don't think I want to work, but I may not know enough about it.

This planning meeting will help me choose my job goal and what I need to help me reach my goal, and will guide the services chosen to support me in my ISP. This planning meeting will take place every year or more often if my job goal or support needs change.



“Community employment” means a regular job where I work alongside people without disabilities and earn at least minimum wage or the same pay as people without disabilities. I do the same kind of work as people without disabilities. A full-time job is 40 hours per week. A part-time job is less than 40 hours per week. How many hours I work per week is a choice I make based on my wants and needs.

“Prevocational services” should help me learn the skills I need to get a job in the community. They may take place in the community or at a sheltered workshop. These services are not meant to go on forever. They are meant to be short-term and help me better my skills to move on to a job in the community.

“Supported employment” services can help me figure out what job I might like or help me train for a job. They can also help me get a job or learn how to do a new job. Supported employment does not mean work in a sheltered workshop.

“Provider” means the person or agency I have chosen to work with. My SSA can help me choose a provider from a list of approved providers.

A **“benefits analysis”** is a service that can help me understand the changes that might happen to my benefits if I have a job in the community. Benefits can be things like my SSI or SSDI check, Medicare or Medicaid (medical card), food stamps and money I may get to help pay for housing.

What does having a job
mean to me?

SKILLS

CHOICES

SUCCESS

FRIENDS

MONEY

FUTURE