

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 21, 2022

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Bill Teets, 614-403-2331

Bill.teets@jfs.ohio.gov

Dasia Clemente: 614-817-2945

Dasia.Clemente@jfs.ohio.gov

New Career Resource Navigator Can Help Identify Options for Individuals with Barriers to Employment

COLUMBUS, OHIO – Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Director Matt Damschroder announced today that a new Career Resource Navigator tool can connect Ohioans with barriers to work to programs that can help them. The interactive tool, at WorkForce.Ohio.gov/Initiatives, complements the free career planning resources available at OhioMeansJobs.com. It provides a customizable dashboard of 12 career training and post-secondary education programs for individuals who need help with such things as managing a disability, finding supports such as child care or transportation, or improving their reading, writing, math, or computer skills.

“The Career Resource Navigator will be helpful to individuals, career counselors, workforce professionals, and others,” Damschroder said. “You simply answer a few brief questions, and it generates a list of programs that might be a good fit for you or the individual you’re helping. From there, you can take a deeper dive to find helpful data, such as the employment and earnings outcomes of past program participants.”

The Career Resource Navigator was developed by a collaboration of the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the Ohio Department of Higher Education, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, and the Ohio Education Research Center at The Ohio State University. The tool’s design was informed by input from a broad group of prospective users and stakeholders, with a focus on easy-to-use and understand features.

Those visiting the tool for the first time can watch a brief instructional video to learn how to get started. From there, they can click the “Customize Your Navigator” button in the top right corner and answer questions to generate search results.

-30-

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services manages vital programs that strengthen Ohio families. These include job training and employment services, unemployment insurance, cash and food assistance, child care, child and adult protective services, adoption, and child support services.

