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# Memo Monday DODD News, Guidance, and Training



#### Monday, November 24, 2025

# Highlight of the Week: DODD Staff Recognized at Ohio County Board Association's 42nd Annual Convention



Congratulations to DODD's Nate Turner, Outreach and Education Coordinator, Keith Banner, Community Life Engagement Project Lead, and the entire F.E.A.R. Factor team for receiving the Partners in Excellence Award at the Ohio Association of County Boards' 42nd Annual Convention!

Their ongoing work with F.E.A.R. Factor helps address fears about losing benefits when seeking employment by

providing tools and information to maintain benefits while working.

The Partners in Excellence Award recognizes a county board of developmental disabilities employee or DD system stakeholder who demonstrates exceptional commitment to excellence and service through work on a policy issue, workgroup, or project that benefits the DD system as a whole.

Learn more about OACB's annual awards on their website.

## In This Memo Monday

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# Resources Available for Proposed Changes to Level 1, Individual Options, and Self-Empowered Life Funding Waivers

Attention: All Providers, County Board Service and Support Administrators, Waiver Participants, Families

Please visit <u>DODD's January 2026 Waiver Changes page</u> to find resources to describe the proposed changes that DODD has submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for January 2026.

Here you will find one-pagers and a PowerPoint sharing the upcoming changes to the support broker, Remote Support, and Assistive Technology services.

For questions about the upcoming proposed changes, please email WaiverPolicyTA@dodd.ohio.gov.

# Upcoming Changes to OhioITMS Reports – Action Required

Attention: All Providers, County Boards, Council of Governments, and Developmental Centers

As part of the upcoming OhioITMS system updates, several field names used in reporting will change. This will affect both **standard** and **custom** reports. These updates will happen in late November to early December. More details will be shared soon.

#### What You Need to Know

- Standard reports will be rebuilt and updated automatically.
- Custom reports saved in private folders will no longer work once changes are made.

#### **Recommended Actions**

To ensure continued access to your important reports, DODD strongly encourages you to take the following steps:

- 1. Review your existing reports as soon as possible.
- 2. Document any filters or fields currently in use.
- 3. Prepare to rebuild your custom reports once the new field names are available.

There will be a **limited transition period** where you can view your old reports and begin creating new ones. After this window, the legacy versions will be permanently removed.

For tips on creating and filtering reports, please review this tip sheet.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please email **OhioITMS@dodd.ohio.gov**.

# Medicaid Services System Application Upgrade: Coming Soon

Attention: County Boards, Councils of Government Staff, Providers, Billing Agents

A major upgrade to the Medicaid Services System (MSS) application is scheduled to begin in 2026.

The current system has become hard to navigate, impacting both productivity and service quality.

The new MSS application will be simpler, smarter, and more user-friendly, featuring:

- Unified scheduling and combined calendar
- Real-time costing and validations
- A guided, step-by-step experience
- Targeted notifications
- Improved multi-user access
- Sandbox functionality for County Board and Provider collaboration
- Archiving and sorting tools

### **Key Milestones**

The department is excited to announce a **soft launch in January 2026**. As part of this phase, county boards may begin transitioning active sites in preparation for the Go Live on July 1, 2026. Legacy MSS will remain active until July 2027 to allow edits to service dates before July 2026.

For questions, please email <a href="mailto:msssupport@dodd.ohio.gov">msssupport@dodd.ohio.gov</a>.

## Statewide OhioISP Gathering

Attention: Qualified Intellectual Disability Professionals, Service and Support Administrators

Don't miss the DODD OhioISP team's semi-annual statewide Gathering on Thursday, December 4, at 10 AM.

This webinar session will include valuable information on the following:

- A review of the top citations of the year
- Current OhioISP updates and future initiatives
- A review of services and supports
- Upcoming training opportunities

Don't miss this opportunity to stay informed and connected!

Register for the upcoming Gathering on Zoom.

If you have any questions or need an accommodation, email OhioISP@dodd.ohio.gov.

## 2025 Annual Training Deadline Approaching

Attention: Direct Support Professionals, Independent Providers, Directors of Operations, Administrators of Licensed Residential Facilities

If you are a direct support professional (DSP), independent provider, director of operations, or administrator of licensed residential facilities, you must complete your required annual training for the 2025 calendar year by **December 31, 2025**.

Learn more about the training requirements on **DODD**'s website.











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