



Partner Tool Kit

November 2021

Valued Partner-

Every year, the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (the Council) celebrates October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. However, our work to promote disability employment goes on all year long. As part of our commitment to promote inclusive hiring to drive competitive, integrated employment across the state, this year we have created a statewide Disability Inclusion Survey for all-Arkansas Based employers. Thank you for partnering with us as we work to better understand the resources you need to improve our state's workforce for **all** Arkansans. Here is your toolkit:

Enclosed you will find:

- News release detailing everything you need to know about the survey
- Disability Inclusion Survey Flyer
- Key messages surrounding the Council and are disability inclusion survey
- Example social media posts and content

Key Messages

- The Council's purpose is to connect people with developmental disabilities (DD) to the resources and programs they need to be independent, productive, integrated and included in life.
- The Disability Inclusion Survey is for Arkansas-based companies of all sizes and is seeking input from employers on their current practice of inclusive, integrated employment for individuals with DD.
- The Disability Inclusion Survey is 100% anonymous unless you would like to leave your contact information for further questions.
- Responses from the survey will help the Council develop programming to assist Arkansas employers.
- The survey will be available online for employers to complete now through Dec. 31, 2021 at <https://forms.gle/QKHjs5zVYa7G8SG8>

Example Social Posts

*Below are some potential social posts to share the news about our survey. We recommend sharing on all social media platforms and newsletters throughout October. **Please tag us at @GCDDAR!***

COPY FOR ORGANIZATIONS

Facebook, Instagram, & LinkedIn:

Take a few minutes to complete the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities' Disability Inclusion Survey for all Arkansas-based employers to help improve our state's resources and create a better workforce for all. Complete the survey now through Dec. 31: <https://forms.gle/QKHjjs5zVYa7G8SG8>. #GCDDAR #InclusiveArkansas

Twitter:

Complete the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities' Disability Inclusion Survey to help create a better workforce for all. Open now through Dec. 31: <https://forms.gle/QKHjjs5zVYa7G8SG8>.

COPY FOR INDIVIDUALS

Facebook, Instagram, & LinkedIn:

I'm taking a look at our company's current disability inclusion efforts. Consider completing the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities' Disability Inclusion Survey and help create a better workforce for all. Available through Dec. 31: bit.ly/GCDDEmployerSurvey. #GCDDAR #InclusiveArkansas

Twitter:

We're completing the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities' Disability Inclusion Survey to help create a better workforce for all. Join us and submit before Dec. 31: bit.ly/GCDDEmployerSurvey. #GCDDAR #InclusiveArkansas

Example Social Graphic



Competitive, Integrated Employment Survey

The Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities thanks you for taking the time to complete our **confidential** survey. Completed surveys will help the Council develop best practices for Arkansas employers to:

- Create an Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities-Friendly Organization
- Practice Inclusive Recruiting, Interviewing and Onboarding
- Build a Fully Integrated Work Environment



Governor's Council on
**Developmental
Disabilities**

ARKANSAS

GCDD.arkansas.gov



Take the survey: <https://bit.ly/GCDDEmployerSurvey>



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Extends Disability Inclusion Survey Deadline to Dec. 31

Arkansas employers can complete the survey now through the end of the year

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (Oct. 26, 2021) — The Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (the Council) announced it has extended the deadline for its disability inclusion survey; Arkansas employers are encouraged to complete the survey now through Friday, Dec. 31.

Every October, the Council celebrates National Disability Employment Awareness Month as a time to increase awareness of the need for Arkansas-based employers to employ more inclusively and the plethora of resources available. This year, the Council launched a statewide disability inclusion survey for all Arkansas-based employers to learn more about the state's current inclusive and equitable hiring practices for those living with developmental disabilities (DD).

"We want to thank all of our partners and businesses across the state who have taken the time to complete our disability inclusion survey," said Jon Taylor, executive director of the Council. "In an effort to bring vital resources to help employers improve their inclusive and equitable hiring practices, this survey will provide us with valuable insights on how we can support our future workforce. We want to invite employers across the state to be a part of the change and complete our survey that is open throughout the end of the year."

The Council works to improve the independence and productivity of Arkansans with intellectual and developmental disabilities and to ensure their integration and inclusion into communities across the state. This survey is a part of the Council's initiative to provide vital resources for companies to have the support they need to improve their inclusive and equitable hiring practices.

The disability inclusion survey is available online for employers to complete through Friday, Dec. 31, 2021, at bit.ly/GCDDEmployerSurvey.

About The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is a member of the National

Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD). The Council's purpose is to connect people with developmental disabilities to the resources and programs they need to be independent, be productive and be integrated and included in all parts of community life. GCDD, along with network partners, works to implement the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act in Arkansas to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of community services that allow increased opportunities to live and work locally. GCDD is funded by a grant from the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Community Living \(ACL\)](#) through the Administration on Disability's Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (OIDD). Learn more at GCDD.Arkansas.gov.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Launches Statewide Disability Inclusion Survey for Arkansas-Based Employers

Governor proclaims October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (Oct. 7, 2021) – Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson has proclaimed October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. On Thursday, Oct. 7, the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (the Council), Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) and other community members gathered to commemorate this important month.

During the event, the Council announced the launch of a statewide disability inclusion survey for all Arkansas-based employers. Employers across the state are encouraged to complete the survey, which will be open now through Sunday, Oct. 31.

"As an entity dedicated to empowering Arkansans with DD, we are committed to increasing awareness of the value of inclusive and equitable employment practices," said Jon Taylor, executive director of the Council. "This survey will provide us with vital insights in order to create the best resources to improve Arkansas's equitable workforce. We encourage all employers to take the initiative: participate in our survey and help build a better future for all Arkansans."

Every October, the Council and ARS celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month as a time to increase awareness of the need for Arkansas-based employers to employ more inclusively and the plethora of resources available. This year's celebration was held at Arkansas State University System's office in Little Rock, and event attendees included Taylor; Joseph Baxter, Commissioner of ARS; the Council members; ARS members and community members.

"We are thrilled to announce that October is Disability Employment Awareness Month in an initiative to better support our workforce through inclusive and equitable employment practices," said Baxter. "We want to thank Gov. Hutchinson for supporting our mission to provide resources and support for Arkansans with developmental disabilities and the Council for their dedication to promoting inclusive, integrated employment for all individuals across the state."

The Council works to improve the independence and productivity of Arkansans with intellectual and developmental disabilities (DD) and to ensure their integration and inclusion into communities across the state. The disability inclusion survey will be available online for employers to complete through Oct. 31, 2021, at bit.ly/GCDDEmployerSurvey.

For photos, visit bit.ly/GCDDNRPhotos.

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