



EARNING THE OHIO MEANS JOBS-READINESS SEAL

Ohio high school students can earn recognition by showing they are prepared to contribute to the workplace and their communities. The **OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal** is a formal designation students can receive on their high school diplomas and transcripts acknowledging they have the personal strengths, strong work ethic and professional experience that businesses need.

To earn the **OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal**, motivated high school students must demonstrate certain professional skills required for success in the workplace. Students work with at least three experienced and trusted mentors who validate the demonstration of these skills in school, work, or the community.

Since 2018, the **OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal** has been available for qualifying graduates and is printed directly on the student's diploma and transcript.

Requirements for OMJ Readiness Seal

- Demonstrate proficiency in each of 15 identified professional skills.
- Record how each professional skill was demonstrated in one of three possible environments (school, work or community) on the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal Form.
- Have each skill validated (confirmed) by at least one mentor. A minimum of three mentors must be involved in the overall validation process and sign the form. Their signatures demonstrate that they are recommending the student to a prospective employer or higher education provider.

Benefits to Students

- Gives a platform to discover career opportunities within Ohio's workforce and set tangible goals to achieve their aspirations.
- Receives information first-hand from mentors on what it takes to be successful in their future careers.
- Jump-starts the career and/or college process. Mentors can write letters of recommendation indicating professional skills demonstrated.
- Provides recognition of contributions to the workplace and their communities.

Environments to be Validated

School: The student demonstrates professional skills in a school environment during the school day or extracurricular activities. School mentors include teachers, administrators, advisors, coaches and others.

Work: The student demonstrates professional skills in a work environment. Work mentors include supervisors, hiring managers, experienced co-workers and others.

Community: The student demonstrates professional skills in a community environment. Community mentors include volunteer coordinators, faith-based leaders and others. These activities are separate from school-based or work-based activities.

Student OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal Validation Form:

<https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/New-Skills-for-Youth/SuccessBound/OhioMeansJobs-Readiness-Seal/OMJ-Readiness-Seal-Validation-Form.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>

Please reach out to your School Administration for more information at your high school, or search:

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/New-Skills-for-Youth/SuccessBound/OhioMeansJobs-Readiness-Seal>

