

Autism & COVID-19

Updates from the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy

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OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

What Do We Do?

- *Develop and influence policies that increase the number and quality of employment opportunities for people with disabilities*



Current Priorities

- Ensure a disability-inclusive COVID response and recovery
 - *“Recover Into Inclusion”*
- Promote racial and social equity in disability policy and programs
- Support workers with mental health conditions and promote mental health-friendly workplace policies and practices
- Expand opportunities for training and employment in clean/green energy and other high-growth industries
- Help youth with disabilities prepare for and succeed in employment in the post-pandemic era



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Ensuring an Inclusive Response & Recovery

- Assisting workers with disabilities who have lost jobs
- Ensuring workers with disabilities have access to needed accommodations and supports
 - Including those experiencing Long COVID
- Helping employers and workers understand the intersection between safety and health guidelines and the ADA
- Promoting best practices for workplace mental health
- Educating about accessible telework



An Inclusive Recovery: Tools to Assist from JAN



AskJAN.org

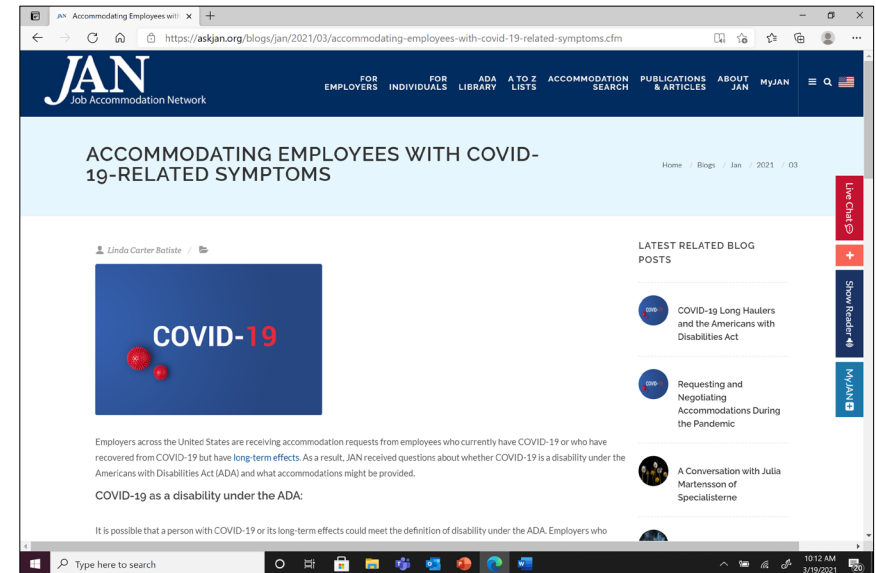
- Wide range of resources on pandemic-related topics:
 - Stress and mental health conditions, such as:
 - Requesting accommodations
 - Masks in the workplace
 - Telework
 - Long COVID
- One-on-one assistance with individual situations



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Response & Recovery: “Long COVID”

- Between 10 and 30% experience ongoing symptoms
- May be covered by ADA and other laws (and thus entitled to accommodations)
- JAN can help!



AskJAN.org

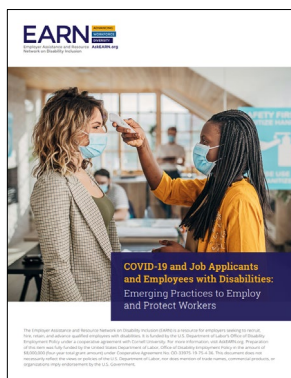


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An Inclusive Recovery: Tools to Assist from EARN



AskEARN.org



COVID-19 and Job Applicants and Employees with Disabilities: Emerging Practices to Employ and Protect Workers



Adopting an Integrated Telework Policy for Employees With and Without Disabilities



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Driving Change ★ Creating Opportunity

Mental Health Toolkit



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Autism-Specific Resources

- JAN (AskJAN.org)
 - Common accommodations
 - Interviewing tips
- EARN (AskEARN.org)
 - Neurodiversity in the Workplace
- Autism@Work Roundtable (DisabilityIn.org)



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Questions?

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