

# United States Department of Labor

## Office of Disability Employment Policy

### National Disability Employment Awareness Month 2019



### Celebrating Disability Inclusion for More than 70 Years

Reflecting a commitment to a robust and competitive American labor force, the 2019 National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) theme is "The Right Talent, Right Now." Observed each October, NDEAM celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities and educates about the value of a workforce inclusive of their skills and talents. The official [2019 NDEAM poster](#) is available for downloading or to [order](#).

### LEARN ABOUT NDEAM'S HISTORY

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NDEAM dates back to 1945, when Congress declared the first week in October "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." Learn more about the origins and evolution of NDEAM and other important events in disability employment history in our interactive [timeline](#).



### GET NDEAM MATERIALS

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ODEP offers a range of [resources](#) to help organizations plan NDEAM observances, including not only the official [poster](#) in English and Spanish, but also sample articles, a press release, proclamation and social media content.



## PLAN NDEAM OBSERVANCES

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What can YOU do to celebrate NDEAM? There are lots of ways! To get started, see our [31 Days of NDEAM slideshow](#) or our ideas for:

- [employers](#)
- [educators and youth service professionals](#)
- [state governors, legislators and other policymakers](#)
- [associations and unions](#)
- [disability related organizations](#)
- [federal agencies](#)



## 2019 THEME: THE RIGHT TALENT, RIGHT NOW

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The 2019 NDEAM theme emphasizes the essential role people with disabilities play in America's economic success, especially in an era when historically low unemployment and global competition are creating a high demand for skilled talent. [Read the news release.](#)