**2018 Disability Mentoring Days   
Frequently Asked Questions**

**What are Disability Mentoring Days?**

* A national program coordinated by the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) that promotes critical career development for students with disabilities by direct job-shadowing and mentoring activities during Disability Employment Awareness Month (October).
* The District of Columbia Office of Disability Rights (ODR) and the Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) will participate in a series of mentoring activities in the DC area to bring students with disabilities and employers from local businesses, Federal, and District government agencies together beginning October 15 and ending October 31, 2018.

**What are the goals of Disability Mentoring Days?**

* Promote disability as a central part of diversity recruitment for a more inclusive workforce.
* Increase internship and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
* Dispel employers’ biases about hiring people with disabilities.
* Serve as a launching point for year-round efforts to foster more career–oriented mentoring opportunities.

**What Happens on Disability Mentoring Days?**

* Networking & exposure to area businesses and agencies.
* One-on-one job shadowing.
* Group visits/information tours to worksites.
* Job training activities.

**How Do Employers Benefit from Disability Mentoring Days?**

* Recruit qualified interns with disabilities.
* Gain access to a pool of potential future employees with disabilities.
* Learn more about the experience of disability while developing lasting relationships with community leaders with disabilities.

**How Do I Participate?**

Individuals wishing to participate in the Disability Mentoring Days, either as participants (students or job seekers with disabilities) or employers (private or government), should contact Alison Whyte (202-727-8005, [alison.whyte@dc.gov](mailto:alison.whyte@dc.gov)) or Julia Wolhandler (202-727-2890, [julia.wolhandler@dc.gov](mailto:julia.wolhandler@dc.gov)).