The OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal is a way to demonstrate you have the professional skills needed to succeed in college, a career and life. Here are the top five things to know.

**The OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal:**

1. **...is something to brag about.**
   - The OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal can be an addition to your college applications or resume. It shows you have a set of 15 professional skills that employers and colleges are looking for in applicants.

2. **...helps you stand out in the crowd.**
   - The OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal gives you an advantage when you apply for jobs or colleges. Many Ohio businesses and colleges recognize the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal and know that candidates with the seal already have a basic set of professional skills that lead to success. Read more about what businesses are saying about the seal.

3. **...helps you make connections.**
   - To earn the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal, three trusted adults, or mentors, certify you demonstrate the required skills. You can find mentors at school, a work environment or in the community. Teachers, coaches, club advisors, youth group leaders and job or internship supervisors all are potential mentors. Having a strong relationship with your mentors can help you form a professional network that could benefit you in life after high school.

4. **...recognizes the work you already are doing.**
   - If you are involved in school activities, your community or a work experience, you’re probably already doing the required work to earn the seal. For example, if you are in the marching band, you could ask the band instructor to be your mentor. Your band instructor might certify that you demonstrate punctuality (one of the professional skills) because you arrive on time to practices and performances.

5. **...lets you take charge.**
   - You don’t have to wait on parents and teachers to earn the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal. You can take charge and begin on your own. To get started, read the details about the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal, download the validation form, find your three mentors and provide them with the mentor resources. It’s also important to tell your school counselor and principal you are working to earn the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal.