Local Tennessee Rehab Publishes New Guidance on Jobs, Drug Testing, and Suboxone

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FAYETTEVILLE, TN - May 27, 2026 -
ReVIDA® Recovery has published a new educational blog focused on a question many people ask before starting or continuing treatment for opioid use disorder: ?Will employers hire someone who is taking Suboxone?? In its latest resource, ?Are Employers Willing to Hire People on Suboxone??, ReVIDA breaks down how hiring, workplace drug testing, privacy, and disability protections typically apply to people who are prescribed Suboxone as part of recovery.

The article was created to address a very real barrier to treatment. Many people worry that receiving medication for opioid use disorder could hurt their job prospects, limit future opportunities, or lead to discrimination during the hiring process. ReVIDA?s blog pushes back on that fear with practical, experience-based information. According to the article, most employers will hire someone prescribed Suboxone and may never know they are taking it, especially when the medication is used legally, as directed, and without affecting job performance.

The resource also explains that standard workplace drug screens usually do not test for buprenorphine, the active ingredient in Suboxone. ReVIDA notes that the most common five-panel drug tests generally focus on

substances such as marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, PCP, and certain opioids, but buprenorphine is not typically included unless an employer orders an expanded panel. That distinction can help reduce fear for people who are applying for jobs while in treatment and are unsure how medication might affect the process.

In addition to concerns about drug testing, the blog highlights legal protections that may apply to people in recovery. ReVIDA explains that opioid use disorder can be protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act when a person is not currently using illicit substances. That means employers generally cannot refuse to hire, promote, or retain someone solely because they are legally prescribed medication, as long as they can perform the essential duties of the role. The article also notes important exceptions in safety-sensitive or highly regulated industries, where medical review or disclosure may be required.

For people trying to rebuild stability after opioid addiction, employment is often about much more than a paycheck. Work can represent structure, independence, family support, and a sense of progress. ReVIDA?s article speaks directly to that reality, encouraging readers to understand both their rights and their options. The piece outlines situations where disclosure may be necessary, such as in Department of Transportation-regulated positions or other jobs involving public safety, heavy equipment, or specialized clearance. It also explains that for many office, retail, service, and technical roles, medical privacy can often be maintained.

The blog also explores industries that may be more recovery-friendly, including behavioral health, community outreach, hospitality, some skilled trades, and other performance-focused roles where a person?s private medical treatment is less likely to define their candidacy. Rather than focusing on stigma, the article encourages readers to focus on stability, readiness, and the ability to perform the job well.

This message is especially relevant in Appalachia, where opioid use disorder continues to affect individuals, families, and communities across the region. ReVIDA notes that West Virginia had the highest buprenorphine dispensing rate in the country in 2023, underscoring how common this form of treatment has become and how important it is for people to have accurate information about recovery and employment.

ReVIDA® Recovery serves patients across East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia, including Johnson City and Knoxville, and regularly works with people balancing outpatient treatment alongside work, home life, and financial responsibilities. By publishing resources like this one, the organization aims to make treatment feel more accessible, realistic, and compatible with everyday life.

ReVIDA® Recovery is an outpatient treatment provider serving East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. The organization specializes in care for opioid use disorder and offers evidence-based services designed to help

patients manage cravings, prevent withdrawal, and build long-term stability while continuing to meet the demands of daily life. To learn more, call 423-631-0432.

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ReVIDA® Recovery Fayetteville

ReVIDA® Recovery offers a safe, welcoming environment where you can tackle your opioid use disorder and take the necessary steps to find recovery. We?ll have your back every step of the way.

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