

U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
Office of Apprenticeship
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QUARTERLY REPORT

WINTER 2026

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRING YOU THIS UPDATE
FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

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Office of Apprenticeship
United States Department of Labor



APPRENTICESHIP.GOV

APPRENTICESHIP EVENTS



NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

A nationwide celebration where ApprenticeshipUSA partners host events to showcase the successes and value of Registered Apprenticeship for strengthening our economy by developing a highly skilled workforce to meet industry needs and creating pathways for career seekers to catapult into in-demand jobs.

We hope you will join us to celebrate **National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) 2026**. Get ready for the biggest NAW yet! Start adding your events and proclamations now.

Dates: April 26 – May 2, 2026

Submit Events & Proclamations: [National Apprenticeship Week](#)

NATIONAL CONVENING ON REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS IN TEACHING

NASDTEC and the National Center for Grow Your Own are proud to host the 3rd National Convening on Registered Apprenticeships in Teaching. Session presentation will include information from state education agencies, local education agencies, and educator preparation providers who are currently doing this work.

Dates: January 28 - 30, 2026

Location: New Orleans, LA

Registration: [2026 NatConv Registration Link](#)

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE ON APPRENTICESHIP

A Biennial event that brings together the entire California apprenticeship community all in one location. The California Conference on Apprenticeship (CCA) is a Non-profit Organization 501(c)(5).

Dates: May 5 – 8, 2026

Location: Santa Rosa, CA

Registration: [Convention | CAC-CCA](#)

APPRENTICESHIPS FOR AMERICA SUMMIT

The Apprenticeships for America (AFA) Summit gathers practitioners, public officials, and thought leaders to discuss and shape the future of apprenticeship in the U.S. workforce.

Dates: May 18 – 20, 2026

Location: Washington, DC

Registration: [2026 AFA Summit](#)

APPRENTICESHIP DATA & STATISTICS

FY2026

In the first quarter of FY2026, the Office of Apprenticeship and state registration agencies report the following:

- 441 new apprenticeship programs in 593 occupations
- 26,714 total registered apprenticeship programs among 60,361 employers
- 52,459 new apprentices
- 700,714 total active apprentices
- 20,968 completed apprentices

From the total counts above are the following national program standards (NPS) data:

- 336 national programs among 4,677 employers
- 144,449 active apprentices

FY2025

Ending FY2025 on September 30th, the Office of Apprenticeship and state registration agencies reported the following:

- 2,630 new apprenticeship programs in 2,748 occupations
- 311,035 new apprentices
- 703,475 total active apprentices
- 119,035 completed apprentices

A total of 25 new NPS were approved for registration in FY2025. For details on those programs, go to: [Bulletins](#) and select the category "National Program Standards". Policy guidance for NPS is outlined in Circular 2022-01 and Circular 2022-01a at [Circulars](#).

Top 7 Apprenticeable Occupations:

The following are January 2026 estimates based on both real time data in RAPIDS and stick count data from SAA states. It is important to note there are approximately 25,000 apprentice occupation titles missing from non-RAPIDS user data omitted from the figures below:

- 132,022 Apprentices: Electricians (O*Net 47-2111.00)
- 64,142 Apprentices: Plumber/Pipefitters (O*Net 47-2152.00)
- 39,241 Apprentices: Construction Craft Laborers (O*Net 47-2061.00)
- 32,368 Apprentices: Carpenters (O*Net 47-2031.00)
- 31,017 Apprentices: Computer Operators (O*Net 15-1299.00)
- 20,810 Apprentices: Utility Linepersons (O*Net 49-9051.00)
- 15,163 Apprentices: HVAC/Refrigeration (O*Net 49-9021.00)

The USDOL's Office of Apprenticeship invites our state partners and all program sponsors to keep the momentum going to get to our goal of **1 million apprentices** as outlined in [Executive Order 14278](#).

RECENT POLICY GUIDANCE

OA Bulletins & Circulars

[Bulletin 2025-120](#) released on July 7, 2025 entitled, the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) entitled “[Prohibiting Illegal Discrimination in Registered Apprenticeship Programs](#)” closed on September 2, 2025. 382 total comments were received. Those comments can be viewed by the public at [Regulations.gov/document/ETA-2025-0006-0001](#).

The Department issued this NPRM in an effort to remove undue regulatory burdens on registered apprenticeship program sponsors. The proposal would rescind certain regulatory provisions that it believes are unlawful. It also includes conforming, technical changes to the Department's regulation that addresses Labor Standards for the Registration of Apprenticeship Programs. This proposed rule would streamline and simplify sponsors' obligations, while maintaining broad and effective nondiscrimination protections for apprentices and those seeking entry into apprenticeship programs.

ETA Advisories

[TEN No. 02-25](#) was issued on October 1, 2025, to provide ETA grant award recipients and stakeholders with information about how a temporary suspension of Federal Government services impacts the execution of ETA-funded programs and services. To locate all other ETA advisories, or to sign up for email notifications of these advisories, go to [ETA Advisories | U.S. Department of Labor](#).

Opinion Letters

The U.S. Department of Labor is committed to providing workers and businesses with the necessary tools for complying with the labor laws we enforce. As part of these efforts, we're increasing compliance assistance resources and tools like opinion letters to help the public more fully understand their rights and duties under federal law. Opinion letters are official written opinions on how a law we enforce applies to a specific workplace situation, providing practical answers to help the public understand their rights and responsibilities. They can be requested by anyone, including workers, employers, employment associations, lawyers, human resource professionals, unions and industry leaders. Generally, these letters concern matters where it is unclear how to apply existing regulations or guidance. Go to [Opinion Letters | U.S. Department of Labor](#) for more information.

APPRENTICESHIP GRANTS

Posted

\$98M for YouthBuild 2025: On December 23, 2025, The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) released a new YouthBuild Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). Under this FOA, USDOL will award grants through a competitive process to eligible public or private non-profit organizations or Tribal entities to provide pre-apprenticeship occupational skills training, education, and job placement services to opportunity youth. Questions regarding this FOA may be emailed to FOA-ETA-26-38@dol.gov. Full FOA is at [Opportunity Listing - YouthBuild 2025](#).

Awarded

\$5M awarded in Women in Apprenticeship and Non-traditional Occupations (WANTO) grants: On August 8th, 2025, USDOL's Women's Bureau awarded [FOA-WB-25-01](#) FY25 WANTO grants to 7 community-based organizations. WANTO funding helps to increase women's participation in apprenticeship programs. Learn more about the program and the 2025 recipients at [WANTO Grant 2025](#).

\$86M awarded to 14 states for Investment in Skills Training Programs for Critical In-demand, Emerging Industries: On September 30th, 2025, USDOL announced the award of more than \$86 million in Industry-Driven Skills Training Fund grants to 14 states to accelerate innovation, strengthen domestic production, and address critical workforce needs across the country, with more than \$20 million of the funding supporting the revitalization of the domestic shipbuilding industry, training workers in welding, marine electrical, manufacturing, and other skilled trades. These grants will provide outcome-based reimbursements to employers for providing training in high-demand and emerging industries. Find awardee and other information here: [Skills training programs for critical industries](#).

\$14M awarded under the Revitalizing Domestic Manufacturing by Developing the Next Generation of American's Shipbuilders: The USDOL's [Bureau of International Labor Affairs](#) has recently announced shipbuilding investments to two maritime institutions to develop internationally recognized curricula aimed at career education in shipbuilding, defense, and maritime energy sectors. [Delaware County Community College](#), a federally designated Maritime Center of Excellence, will receive \$8 million, while [Massachusetts Maritime Academy](#) will be awarded \$5.8 million to develop hands-on training programs in partnership with U.S. shipyards and international allies. The initiatives will focus on specialized shipbuilding trades, expand registered apprenticeship opportunities nationwide, and support new production techniques such as modular construction and icebreaker design and comes as U.S. shipbuilding continues to lag global competitors.

\$50B awarded to all 50 states for Strengthening and Modernizing Healthcare in Rural Communities: On December 29th, 2025, the [Rural Health Transformation Program](#) awards were announced by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. States will support clinical workforce training, residencies, recruitment and retention incentives, and new pathways that help students begin health care careers in their own communities. Grant applicant abstracts are [HERE](#).

Interested in other funding opportunities? Search www.dol.gov/grants or grants.gov

APPRENTICESHIP INVESTMENTS

PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PAYMENTS PROGRAM

On January 6th, 2026, USDOL announced a **FORECAST NOTICE** for the Pay-for-Performance Incentive Payments Program (PfP IPP). This new funding opportunity of \$145M supports performance-based Registered Apprenticeship expansion with an award of up to 5 cooperative agreements for a 4-year period of performance focusing on the expansion of newly developed Registered Apprenticeships, as well as the growth of existing programs across targeted industries.

- Read the Press Release at: [DOL Newsroom](#)
- Check out the full forecast notice and specific details at: [FOA-ETA-26-19](#)

AMERICAN MANUFACTURING APPRENTICESHIP INVENTIVE FUND

On December 19th, 2025, USDOL announced the launch of its American Manufacturing Apprenticeship Incentive Fund (AMAIF). Designed through a cooperative agreement with the Arkansas Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Services, this new **Funding Opportunity Announcement for \$35.8M** will incentivize employers nationwide to develop, expand, or join existing advanced manufacturing Registered Apprenticeship programs through a pay-for-performance model. Through the program, employers will receive \$3,500 for each new apprentice hired. For more information about the Incentive Fund, please refer to the following resources:

- [Press Release](#)
- [American Manufacturing Apprenticeship Incentive Fund Project Abstract](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [List of approved occupations](#)

AGGRESSIVE EXPANSION OF REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

On September 23rd, 2025, USDOL announced two states having received a total of \$25M in funding to develop resources and invest in educational pipelines that lead to more Registered Apprenticeship (RA) opportunities. Press Release can be found at: [Aggressive Expansion of RA](#).

\$12.5M to [Alabama Commission on Higher Education](#) will aid in the expansion of RA as a workforce training solution by making it easier to register new programs and reduce start-up costs. Program key components include working with state apprenticeship agencies and the Office of Apprenticeship to create a template for evaluating existing apprenticeship work processes and occupational frameworks, developing a publicly available online tool to catalog, display, and distribute apprenticeship training outlines in an accessible, machine-readable format, and using an employer-demand driven approach to create national frameworks for occupations where no models exist, or where existing models do not meet employer needs. More details found [HERE](#).

\$12.5M to [Colorado Department of Labor and Employment](#) will develop tools and resources to expand pre-apprenticeships and ensure youth-serving apprenticeships are fully integrated with career and technical education (CTE) and post-secondary education. Program key components include developing tools, frameworks, and resources to help expand pre-apprenticeships that lead to RA, ensuring pre-apprenticeship and RA models align with CTE and post-secondary education, and integrating RA into secondary and post-secondary pathways, expanding career exploration resources in schools, and addressing regulatory barriers for youth employment. More details found [HERE](#).

UPDATES ON THE APPRENTICESHIP INTERMEDIARIES

Registered Apprenticeship Industry Intermediaries have been integral stakeholders in the effort to expand the number of Registered Apprenticeship opportunities across industries throughout the U.S. Apprenticeship Industry Intermediaries have been tasked with helping apprenticeship sponsors refine recruiting, hiring, and retention strategies in Registered Apprenticeship programs. State partners and potential new sponsors are encouraged to refer to the most current fact sheet which contains contact information for the remaining USDOL-funded intermediaries located at [Registered Apprenticeship Industry Intermediaries | Apprenticeship.gov](#).

STATE INVESTMENTS

Guam has released its [FY2025 Tax Credit Summary Report](#) with 32 employers/apprenticeship program sponsors - serving a total of 410 apprentices - receiving over \$12.6M in tax credits.

Nevada's building trades will benefit from the passage of the [National Defense Authorization Act for 2026](#) that includes military base improvements at the Nevada Air National Guard, Creech Air Force Base, and Naval Air Station Fallon.

Arizona announced \$3M to be awarded to 10 apprenticeship programs through the [BuildItAZ Apprenticeship Initiative](#). Since its inception, the BuildItAZ Apprenticeship Initiative has invested more than \$5M to help expand and promote construction careers.

California based-apprenticeship programs can apply for [Employers Training Panel](#) Core Funding for training through Cal-E-Force. For more a detailed overview of the program, check: [Program Overview](#) and to begin that process, start here: [Apply For Funds](#).

Idaho has a [Registered Apprenticeship Incentive Program](#) designed to offset the extraordinary costs of utilizing a Registered Apprenticeship training program. Find an overview, see awarded grants, and apply for funding here: [Grant Opportunities - Idaho Workforce Development Council](#).



A Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) seeking funding to support participants and/or aid in program expenses are encouraged to apply to their state or local workforce board's Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) under the [Workforce Investment Opportunity Act](#) (WIOA). Find your state's [ETPL here](#).

There are a handful of other funding opportunities available under WIOA for training providers and employers which can be explored [HERE](#).

Guidance regarding WIOA services for apprenticeship programs can be found within the [WIOA Desk Reference for RA](#) and more information on securing WIOA funding for Registered Apprenticeship can also be located on the [WIOA Funding resource page](#) at Apprenticeship.gov.

FINAL REGIONAL MESSAGE

Greetings Sponsors, Stakeholders, and other Partners,

As we begin the new year, I want to thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to advancing the registered apprenticeship system across the region. Your ongoing collaboration plays an important role in strengthening and advancing the registered apprenticeship system across the region.

This report highlights new funding opportunities, National Apprenticeship Week information, and new approved occupations. We invite you to review these updates, share them with partners and stakeholders to help advance apprenticeship pathways across the region. We look forward to continuing to build and grow our apprenticeship system together in the year ahead.

Best regards,

Erica Johnson

Erica Johnson
Regional Director



Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Marshall Islands, Nevada, Northern Mariana Islands, Micronesia Oregon, Palau, and Washington