

**U.S. Department of Labor**  
**Employment and Training Administration**  
**Office of Apprenticeship**  
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San Francisco, CA 94103



# 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER REPORT TO:



## STATE & TERRITORY APPRENTICESHIP AGENCIES AND COUNCILS

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

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# OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Good Jobs, Great Cities will Create Pathways to Success

Recently, the USDOL partnered with the National League of Cities to launch the [Good Jobs, Great Cities Academy](#). The Academy includes 16 cities working throughout 2023 and 2024 to develop innovative and scalable city-supported solutions that upskill and reskill workers into quality, high-demand jobs with a focus on supporting residents from historically underserved and underrepresented communities in order to address key shortcomings in education and workforce ecosystems. The academy is a partnership of the National League of Cities and the US Department of Labor (USDOL) with key support from the Siemens Foundation.

*"Here at the Department of Labor, creating good jobs is our North Star and we are laser focused on connecting workers to these good jobs, including workers who have been left out in the past," Acting Labor Secretary Julie Su said. "The Good Jobs, Great Cities Academy was born out of the incredible opportunities we have in this moment. We knew that to deliver on the promise of manufacturing, infrastructure and clean energy in America, a partnership between the Department of Labor and America's innovative cities was an important path forward."*

Region 6 cities [Tacoma, Washington](#) and [Tempe, Arizona](#) were both selected as participants in the launch.

## Apprentice Trailblazer Initiative

The [Apprentice Trailblazer Initiative](#) is designed to create a national network of diverse apprentices and apprenticeship graduates of all ages and backgrounds to feature their stories, hear their perspectives, and show how Registered Apprenticeship (RA) increases opportunities for underserved populations. Apprentice Trailblazers shall bring awareness to other career seekers who may be interested in becoming apprentices.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Cohort of Apprenticeship Ambassadors

USDOL announced the latest additions to the organizations serving as [Apprenticeship Ambassadors](#) to help the department promote and support RA opportunities nationwide. These ambassadors committed to promoting apprenticeships as a high-quality workforce development strategy to meet the needs of industry while expanding equitable opportunities for communities who have experienced limited representation.

## Adoption of Apprenticeship Recommendation by ILO

The USDOL welcomed the adoption of an apprenticeship recommendation by the [International Labor Organization](#), an action announced at the 2023 International Labor Conference in Geneva on June 16, 2023. The recommendation received overwhelming support in a vote of governments and worker and employer organizations. The adoption of the ILO recommendation closely reflects input from the Department's Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Office of the Solicitor, and the Employment and Training Administration, and follows more than two years of discussion. [Click here](#) to read the full press release.

# APPRENTICESHIP EVENTS & WEBINARS

## NAW 2023: Register Your Event & Start Planning – November 13-19, 2023

This year marks the [9th Annual National Apprenticeship Week](#) (NAW), a nationwide celebration in which employers, industry associations, labor organizations, community-based organizations, workforce partners, education providers, tribal leaders, and government agencies host events to showcase the successes and value of Registered Apprenticeship (RA) for re-building our economy, advancing racial and gender equity, building a pipeline to good, quality jobs, and supporting underserved communities.



This year NAW theme is “**Registered Apprenticeship: Superhighway to Good Jobs**,” to reflect the prominence that RA has received as a proven and industry-driven training model that expedites the pathway into good jobs and improves diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in the workplace.

Proclaim your support for RA! Check out the many resources available the [NAW Resources Page](#). Planned NAW events are already flowing in – be sure and [add your event\(s\) to our website](#) and start planning today!

## Education Apprenticeship Accelerator – November 03, 2023

The net.America Corporation, in partnership with USDOL, is hosting a STEM and K-12 Education Apprenticeship Accelerator. The event will showcase how RA programs can help bolster STEM career education, K-12 education, and address STEM teacher shortages. Register free [HERE](#).

## Network Webinar on Making the Most of NAW – October 17, 2023

Join the American Institutes for Research for their October [Apprenticeship Professionals Learning Network](#) webinar. This is a chance for frontline RA professionals to explore strategies for making the most of National Apprenticeship Week. The webinar will include tips for hosting events and making time in your calendar to attend state and national events of interest. Encourage those working on the frontlines to grow apprenticeship in your state by sharing information on this Learning Network and [registering today](#)!

## Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Sprint – October 06, 2023

The White House, in partnership with the USDOL, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and other federal agencies has announced the kickoff of the [Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Sprint](#) to promote the RA model as a solution for industry to develop and train a skilled and diverse Advanced Manufacturing workforce. The Sprint’s launch corresponds with [Manufacturing Day](#) and its goals include increasing awareness, advancing DEIA, workforce system alignment with RA, and more.

## State Apprenticeship Leadership Meeting – September 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The State Apprenticeship Leadership Meeting took place in September in Washington D.C. The meeting brought together state apprenticeship leaders to strategically discuss how to leverage federal investments to expand, diversify, and modernize the apprenticeship system. The two days of plenary and break-out sessions were hosted by the USDOL and American Institutes for Research and attended by numerous state apprenticeship agencies and apprenticeship grantees.

More upcoming apprenticeship events can be found here: [www.apprenticeship.gov/events](http://www.apprenticeship.gov/events)

# GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grant – FOA-ETA-23-15 (SCC4)

**Closing Date: November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

The fourth round of [Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants](#) will increase the capacity and responsiveness of community colleges to meet the skill development needs of employers and equitably support students in obtaining good jobs in in-demand industries. [Full Announcement \(PDF format\)](#)

Employers and the public workforce development system are required partners for all projects, which must also include a sector convener partner unless the lead or another partner serves in that role. Partnerships with labor-management organizations are encouraged in support of good jobs. Partnerships with community-based organizations, adult education providers, and tribal entities, as relevant, are also encouraged in support of equitable employment outcomes in good jobs. [Click here](#) for content from the [Prospective Applicant Webinar](#).

## State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula Grant Awards

On July 19th, USDOL announced the award of [more than \\$65 million in State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula \(SAEF\) grants](#) to states and territories to increase their ability to serve, improve, and strategically expand the National Apprenticeship system. These awards fund the first year of a 5-year apprenticeship investment plan for states and territories to increase their ability to serve, improve, and strategically expand the national RA system. For more information on the SAEF awards, including a list of awardees, please visit the [active grants and contracts investments](#) page on apprenticeship.gov. Grantees can find the [SAEF Planning Toolkit](#) and other great resources via the [State Apprenticeship Grants Site Index](#) on Workforce GPS.

## Registered Apprenticeship Industry Intermediary Contracts

This past summer, USDOL awarded contracts to seven Industry Intermediaries to launch, promote, and expand Registered Apprenticeship (RA) models that scale RAP expansion in emerging sectors and increase the percentage of RA opportunities in established industries. Industry sectors included Early Childhood and K12 Education, Clean Energy, Transportation, Hospitality, and Cybersecurity. See the [News Release](#) for more details and to learn more about the RA Industry Intermediary contracts, visit the new [RA Industry Intermediary page](#) on [apprenticeship.gov](#).

## Inflation Reduction Act

On August 16, 2022, President Biden signed the [Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\)](#), which amended the Internal Revenue Code to add prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements to qualify for increased credit or deduction amounts. The IRA authorized Treasury to develop guidance or regulations necessary to carry out the prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements. USDOL is committed to supporting Treasury in the effective implementation of these requirements. Treasury has launched a page dedicated to providing the latest information and guidance on the implementation of the IRA available [HERE](#).

In an effort to support Treasury's implementation of the IRA, USDOL launched a comprehensive website to provide stakeholders with critical information to navigate the prevailing wage and apprenticeship-related provisions at <https://www.dol.gov/general/inflation-reduction-act-tax-credit>. Additionally, the Office of Apprenticeship has launched a page on apprenticeship.gov dedicated to providing stakeholders with the most up to date information, resources, and FAQs on the IRA implementation [HERE](#). This page will be updated as more information is available.

Interested in other funding opportunities? Search [www.dol.gov/grants](https://www.dol.gov/grants) or [grants.gov](https://grants.gov)

# REGISTRATION AGENCY TOOLS & SUPPORT

## OA Bulletin 2023-124

[Bulletin 2023-124](#) was released on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to address inquiries about eligible occupations for Registered Apprenticeship (RA) programs in the solar industry. State Apprenticeship Recognition Agencies as well as Office of Apprenticeship staff, existing and potential RA program sponsors, and other RA partners should familiarize themselves with this bulletin to ensure that they are fully aware of the extent of existing occupations that have been approved for RA in the solar and construction industry for Federal purposes and the resources available to determine apprenticeability.

## OA's Registered Apprenticeship Academy

The [Registered Apprenticeship \(RA\) Academy](#) was designed to provide first class information, education, training, and resources around the work of RA. The RA Academy offers a wide range of training modules to help our state partners succeed in their respective roles. All are encouraged to explore the RA Academy.

## Apprentices may Leverage Benefits.gov to Access Eligible Benefits

Operated, managed, and supported by a Federal agency Partnership, Benefits.gov provides an innovative, technology-based solution to benefit information delivery. Today, millions of citizens have easy, online access to information from across multiple Federal agencies on Benefits.gov. The beneficiaries include U.S. citizens, businesses, and Federal and state government entities. Check out the [Benefits Finder](#) here.

## Tradeswomen Image Library

The [Western Resource Center for Women in Apprenticeship](#) has created a free-use [Tradeswomen Image Library](#) with pictures of real tradeswomen at work. Users fill out a short Creative Commons agreement and have access to dozens of images in construction and manufacturing settings that can be utilized for marketing Registered Apprenticeship Programs.

## 4 Strategies for Incorporating Equity and Diversity in RA

[This resource](#) from [Jobs for the Future](#) provides four strategies for supporting apprentices along their journey, including looking beyond traditional recruitment and selection procedures, preparing candidates for entry into apprenticeship, planning flexible and responsive training, and supporting post-apprenticeship success. Each strategy includes examples of how businesses and sponsors can implement them.

## Registered Apprenticeship Standards Library

The [Urban Institute](#) recently introduced a new resource developed under its [Registered Apprenticeship Occupations and Standards Center of Excellence](#), funded by the Office of Apprenticeship, which aims to scale apprenticeship and create a "gold standard" infrastructure of occupational skills for RA Programs. This new online resource to search existing apprenticeship training outlines from a multitude of sources all in one place – along with a User Guide for the National Occupational Frameworks that Urban is developing for over 80 occupations, will also be available in the [Registered Apprenticeship Standards Library](#).

The Urban Institute has also compiled [43 Competency-Based Occupational Frameworks](#) for apprenticeships in diverse industries that include advanced manufacturing, business services, education, energy, finance/insurance, healthcare, hospitality, information technology, and transportation. Apprenticeship professionals can review specific frameworks with potential sponsors to help them develop high-quality RA programs that emphasize skills attainment rather than hours accrued.

## MESSAGE FROM OUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Greetings to our partners,

Last month's 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual NASTAD Conference in Orange Beach, Alabama, was a resounding success. It was wonderful to see so many of you and to have the chance to discuss many current issues in registered apprenticeship.

Lots of interest in the K-12 Teacher apprenticeship emerged at the conference. The Problems of Practice tables provided an opportunity to share and exchange vital information and concerns. I think we will continue to see growth in this occupation, as well as the Principal occupation which was recently approved.

National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) will be here very soon. Please be sure to submit your events, proclamations, and other related items to the [National Apprenticeship Week | Apprenticeship.gov](https://www.apprenticeship.gov) website. It's a terrific way to put a spotlight on the successful programs operated by the National Apprenticeship System partners, and on our apprentices.

The Office of Apprenticeship looks forward to our continued collaboration.

Patricia Garcia  
Regional Director, Office of Apprenticeship



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

## CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE

NO RECENT UPDATES

## REGULATORY AGENDA

NO RECENT UPDATES