



FACTSHEET for SPONSORS

What is the RACC?

The Registered Apprenticeship-College Consortium (RACC) is a national network of postsecondary institutions, employers, unions and associations working to create opportunities for apprentice graduates who may want to further enhance their skills by completing an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree. Membership also includes state, regional and national organizations that represent Registered Apprenticeship sponsors and colleges. The RACC is administered by the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education. College members agree to provide credit for a Registered Apprenticeship completion certificate as recommended by a recognized third party evaluator. Currently, there are thousands of existing articulation agreements between a single college and local Registered Apprenticeship program. The consortium will create a national network of colleges and Registered Apprenticeship sponsors allowing apprentice graduates to accelerate completion of their postsecondary degrees at member colleges.

RACC Goals

- ✓ Provide apprentices an accelerated pathway to earn an associate's or bachelor's degree and advocate for the flexibility needed to enable apprentices to earn credit for their Registered Apprenticeship experience;
- ✓ Create a new pipeline of degree seekers to increase graduation rates;
- ✓ Enhance the competitiveness of businesses by enlarging the pool of highly-trained workers;
- ✓ Strengthen relationships among Registered Apprenticeship and postsecondary institutions nationwide; and
- ✓ Enhance national understanding of and responses to the needs of apprentices as another working student population.

Why Should Registered Apprenticeship Sponsors Join the RACC

In today's competitive markets, maintaining an edge is challenging for employers in all industries. Through the RACC, the national Registered Apprenticeship system and the nation's extensive network of two- and four-year post-secondary institutions are at the forefront of providing industry-driven education and training that supports business competitiveness and career advancement for workers. Offering your employee the opportunity to continue their education, regardless of the industry, will enhance the competitiveness of your business.

Other advantages include:

- ✓ A “grow your own” career path that combines apprenticeship and college degree training for your company’s next generation of leaders and innovators;
- ✓ Your Registered Apprenticeship program will be connected to a network of postsecondary institutions nationwide that accept the apprenticeship certificate;
- ✓ Prestige of your Registered Apprenticeship program as a rigorous postsecondary certificate that translates to college credit that may enhance opportunities for your program to receive greater recognition or be more competitive for future funding opportunities; and
- ✓ A recruitment tool to help expand your pool of highly motivated, highly skilled workers.

Quality Programming and Integrity

All Registered Apprenticeship RACC members must have their programs evaluated by a third party organization to determine the college credit value of the apprenticeship completion certificate. Currently, the American Council on Education (ACE), the National College Credit Recommendation Service (NCCRS) and two- and four-year postsecondary institutions that provide a similar evaluation process to Registered Apprenticeship programs as ACE and NCCRS are organizations acceptable as Third Party Evaluators. All RACC college members must be degree-granting institutions that are accredited by a regional institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

How Do I Join?

Joining the RACC is a click away through the streamlined application process, available on the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship RACC homepage, www.doleta.gov/oa/racc. Look for the “Sponsor” Application. Membership is free. Members agree to abide by the RACC Framework that outlines goals, principles and criteria for membership and the RACC Standards of Good Practice also found on the website. For further information and to discuss any questions, please call 202/693-2796 or send an e-mail to RACC@dol.gov. To learn more about the “Earn and Learn” Registered Apprenticeship model and existing programs in a wide variety of industries, visit us at <https://21stcenturyapprenticeship.workforce3one.org/%2findex.aspx>