

**ApprenticeshipUSA Announcement
Questions and Answers
June 2, 2016**

ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grant Program Overview

What is the ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grant Initiative?

ApprenticeshipUSA is a national campaign bringing together a broad range of stakeholders, including employers, labor, States, education and workforce partners, to expand and diversify Registered Apprenticeship in the United States. In April 2016, the United States Department of Labor (DOL) announced \$90 million available this year through the ApprenticeshipUSA initiative. Through Training and Education Guidance Letter (TEGL) 19-15, the Department announced the availability of FY16 funding for ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grants (Accelerator Grants) to States and other eligible entities.

ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grants are designed to build on the proven success several states have already demonstrated in using innovative strategies to expand Registered Apprenticeship and will:

- 1) Support Governors and their States to catalyze or build upon existing strategies to expand and diversify Registered Apprenticeship opportunities;
- 2) Support a range of State activities aimed at integrating Registered Apprenticeship within State talent development systems through partnerships and policy alignment across the workforce, secondary and post-secondary education, economic development systems, and beyond;
- 3) Offer States the opportunity to build their capacity to conduct outreach and work with industry leaders to launch new or expand existing apprenticeships;
- 4) Identify and capitalize on strategic opportunities for expansion and technical assistance to promote excellence and innovation; and
- 5) Offer States the opportunity to convene key industry representatives, State agency leaders and other stakeholders to form strategic partnerships, and elevate apprenticeship as a workforce solution in both traditional and non-traditional industries including IT, healthcare, advanced manufacturing, cyber-security, business services, transportation, and others.

Governors and States are uniquely positioned to develop and implement innovative strategies that use Registered Apprenticeship—a proven earn and learn model—to connect industries seeking talent with the skilled workforce they need. By supporting new and strengthening existing State strategies to grow apprenticeship opportunities, the Accelerator Grants will help lay the foundation for rapid and sustained expansion and diversification of quality apprenticeship nationwide. Over the course of the next few months, DOL will release additional funding opportunities for States, as well as national partners. These funding opportunities will build upon this initial investment and the envisioned success of the State Accelerator grantees over the next few years.

How is this grant program funded?

This program is authorized under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, Pub. L. 114-113., Div. H, Title I; the National Apprenticeship Act, 29 U.S.C. § 50; and 29 C.F.R. Part 29.

Who was eligible to apply?

States were eligible to apply for ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grant funds. State Governors were asked to identify the appropriate state entity to be the grant recipient (e.g., State Apprenticeship Agency (SAA), economic development agency, state workforce agency or state workforce board, or a state community or technical college system). This entity has the sole responsibility for administering the project. For States with Federally recognized SAAs, the SAA was required to be a key partner in the implementation of grant activities. For purposes of the Accelerator grants, State has the same definition as it does in 29 C.F.R. § 29.2.

How much is the total funding awarded for the ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grant Initiative?

The Department is awarding a total of \$10.4 million to ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grantees.

How many ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator grants were awarded?

The Department awarded 51 grants to States and territories, and the District of Columbia, for \$200,000 each.

What are the funding ranges for the ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator grant projects?

Grant funding per award was anticipated to be up to \$250,000. Due to overwhelming interest in the Accelerator grants, the Department raised the total available for these grants to \$10.4 million. This amount was divided evenly between all 52 grantees, equating to an award of \$200,000 per applicant.

What types of activities will these grants fund?

The ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grants are the first phase of a larger strategy to scale up state strategies to grow Registered Apprenticeship. States will utilize the \$10.4 million in grants to help state agencies integrate apprenticeship into their education and workforce systems; engage industry and other partners at scale to expand apprenticeship to new sectors and new populations; support state capacity to conduct outreach and work with employers to start new programs; provide support to promote greater inclusion and diversity in apprenticeship, and implement state innovations, incentives and system reforms. By investing in state strategies for growing apprenticeship opportunities, these funds will help strengthen the foundation for the rapid and sustained expansion of quality apprenticeship nationwide.

How long is the grant period?

The period of performance is 2 years. Accelerator grant funds will be available for expenditure through May 30, 2018.

ApprenticeshipUSA State Accelerator Grant Award List

Applicant State	Applicant Legal Name
AK	Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development
AL	Alabama Department of Commerce
AR	Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
AZ	Arizona - Department of Economic Security
CA	California Employment Development Department
CO	Colorado Department of Labor & Employment
CT	Connecticut Department of Labor
DC	District of Columbia Department of Employment Services
DE	Delaware Department of Labor
FL	Florida Department of Education
GU	Guam Department of Labor
HI	Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
IA	Iowa Workforce Development
ID	Idaho Department of Labor
IL	Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
IN	Indiana Department of Workforce Development
KS	Kansas Department of Commerce
KY	Kentucky Labor Cabinet
LA	Louisiana Workforce Commission
MA	Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development
MD	Maryland Department of Labor Licensing and Regulation
ME	Maine Department of Labor
MI	Michigan Workforce Development Agency
MN	Minnesota
MO	Missouri Division of Workforce Development
MS	Mississippi Department of Employment Security
MT	Montana Department of Labor and Industry
NC	North Carolina Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Solutions
ND	North Dakota Job Service
NE	Nebraska Department of Labor
NH	New Hampshire Community College System
NJ	New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development
NM	New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions
NV	Nevada Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation
NY	New York State Department of Labor
OH	Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
OK	Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City
OR	Oregon Employment Department
PA	Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry
PR	Puerto Rico Department of Labor and Human Resources
RI	Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training
SC	South Carolina State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education

SD	South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation
TN	Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development
TX	Texas Workforce Commission
UT	Utah Department of Workforce Services
VA	Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
VI	Virgin Island Department of Labor
VT	Vermont Department of Labor
WA	Washington State Department of Labor & Industries
WI	Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development
WV	West Virginia Department of Commerce

ApprenticeshipUSA State Expansion Grant Program Overview

What is the ApprenticeshipUSA State Expansion Grant Initiative?

The **ApprenticeshipUSA State Expansion Grant Initiative** is the second phase of the Department’s strategy to invest in State-led initiatives to grow and diversify Registered Apprenticeship.

How will these grants be distributed?

This forthcoming grant will be released in early June as a competitive Funding Opportunity Announcement. Potential applicants will submit an application package through www.grants.gov.

How is this grant program funded?

This program is authorized under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, Pub. L. 114-113., Div. H, Title I; the National Apprenticeship Act, 29 U.S.C. § 50; and 29 C.F.R. Part 29.

Additional Resources

For more information on ApprenticeshipUSA investments, please see:

<https://www.doleta.gov/oa/grants.cfm>

White House Fact Sheet:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/04/21/fact-sheet-investing-90-million-through-apprenticeshipusa-expand-proven>