



Apprenticeship Connections

A Resource for State Apprenticeship Expansion Grantees

Table of Contents

[Resources](#)

[Spotlight on California: Strategies to Support Ambitious Growth](#)

[Spotlight on Integrating Apprenticeship and Trade Adjustment Assistance](#)

[Apprenticeship in the News](#)

Resources

[New SAE Grantee Landing Page](#) - This new [resource page](#) on our Apprenticeship CoP will house all links to CoP pages that have been created just for SAE Grantees, such as Frequently Asked Questions about the grant; quarterly reporting instructions; materials used by grantees to train partners; and promising practices. Bookmark this page for quick reference!

[New Resources on Counting Apprenticeship toward State Post-Secondary Goals](#) - Recent Workforce Data Quality Campaign surveys have found that less than half of states count registered apprenticeship in calculating progress toward their post-secondary credential goals. This [new report](#) and [webinar](#) co-sponsored by the National Skills Coalition explores the issue, data collection challenges, and strategies that are working in Iowa and Washington.



[New Apprenticeship Video from Idaho](#) - From 2016 to 2018, Idaho has more than doubled the number of businesses sponsoring apprenticeships and increased the number of registered apprentices by 67 percent. As part of their ongoing outreach and expansion efforts, they released this [apprenticeship video](#), the first in a planned series.

Spotlight on California: Strategies to Support Ambitious Growth

California has the largest number of apprentices (84,000) in the nation and has seen growth of more than 50% since 2013. New California Governor Gavin Newsom wants to grow the current number by nearly 500 percent to 500,000 over the next 10 years. A recent report by Social Policy Research Associates and Jobs for the Future on [The Future of Apprenticeship in California](#) explores the potential for growth in apprenticeship, describes the state's significant



apprenticeship investments, and offers a series of transformative recommendations. Other SAE grantees may be interested in the state's investments and strategies, including the following:

- California's Employer Training Panel has been funding more than \$100 million annually in incumbent worker training, including apprenticeship.
- In 2015, the state launched the California Apprenticeship Initiative to diversify the occupations as well as the demographics of apprentices. From 2016 to 2018, the CAI invested \$27.5 million grants to community colleges, secondary school agencies (such as school districts), and their partners to establish new Registered Apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs.
- The California Workforce Board's Workforce Accelerator Fund has been investing in projects that accelerate employment and re-employment strategies, with nearly half of its grants to projects that employ apprenticeship or work-based learning strategies.
- The state is using their SAE grant to diversify apprenticeships into high-demand occupations in information technology (IT), advanced manufacturing, health care, and transportation.
- The recently-passed 2018-19 Omnibus Education Trailer Bill eliminates the cumbersome separate enrollment status of student apprentices in community colleges and increases the available funding for classroom training. This removes a significant complication in expanding apprenticeship programs through the community college system.
- Finally, California recently passed Assembly Bill 235, which retains the current approval process for apprenticeship programs in the construction and firefighting trades, but adds a second parallel process for approval of programs in all other industries.

According to a recent [study](#) by the Harvard Business School, job openings that could be covered through apprenticeships is potentially eight times higher than the current number. This translates into more than 650,000 California job openings that could be covered by apprenticeships - putting Governor Newsom's "shoot the moon" goal into the realm of possibility. For more information on apprenticeship in California, check out their [apprenticeship website](#).

Spotlight on Integrating Apprenticeship and Trade Adjustment Assistance



Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) provides stipends, training expenses, support services, relocation expenses, and job search assistance to people who lose their jobs due to international trade so that they can successfully transition to new careers. Given apprenticeship's stellar track record, states want to help trade-impacted workers access apprenticeship opportunities and leverage TAA funds to support apprenticeship. Michigan and Iowa's TA coaches saw an opportunity for

states to explore these issues collaboratively, so they convened interested states - Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Ohio - for a conference call in October.

The initial call allowed state to share challenges and potential solutions. For instance, some states were unsure whether TAA funds can be used to reimburse employers for costs associated with on-the-job learning; Connecticut was able to point the group to this [DOL fact sheet](#) clarifying that such costs are allowable. Another challenge is that TAA benefits are capped at 130 weeks - less than most apprenticeships. To address this, Ohio noted that they focus on shorter, competency-based apprenticeships while Michigan said they are working to identify interim credentials to create shorter-term

stackable apprenticeships.

Convening the states virtually allowed state staff to explore these and other challenges and related solutions, enhancing their collective knowledge and capacity to expand apprenticeship opportunities and leverage TAA funds. A second call is scheduled for late January. If your state is interested in joining the conversation, please reach out to your TA coach.

Apprenticeship in the News

[Looking for an Alternative to College? U.S. Studies German Apprenticeships](#)

[Ambassador McMullen Speaks at the Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Apprenticeships](#)

[Robust Apprenticeship Program Key to Germany's Manufacturing Might](#)

[Washington State Leader in Paying for Apprenticeships for Youth in Foster Care](#)

['Changing the Mindset': Female Inmates in Training for a Life after Prison](#)

[How to Tell If You Need Student Loans for Apprenticeships](#)

[US Employers Went on a Surprising Hiring Spree in December](#)



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