This is the Office of Apprenticeship’s (OA) yearly webinar for members of the Registered Apprenticeship College Consortium (RACC). The purpose is to provide updates on the national apprenticeship program and describe new resources. The webinar also includes a special presentation from the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) on new tools for building work-based learning programs and apprenticeships for students with disabilities.

Diane Auer Jones, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, welcomed the group and discussed the Administration’s work on expanding apprenticeships, including the Presidential Executive Order on Expanding Apprenticeships in America, and the Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion.

Dr. Amy Firestone and Angela McDaniel from the Office of Apprenticeship discussed updates on the Office’s initiatives to collaborate with community colleges and Minority-Serving Institutions across the nation on expanding apprenticeships. The discussion focused on new industries for apprenticeship and colleges’ role in helping employers close the skills gap.

Presenters from ODEP, Taryn Williams, Supervisory Policy Advisor, Carolyn Jones, Senior Policy Advisor, and Janet Brown, Policy Advisor, discussed their grantees’ work to build new work-based learning programs for individuals with disabilities; and new resources for postsecondary institutions.