



U.S. DOL Registered Apprenticeship (RA) Technical Assistance (TA) Center of Excellence Newsletter

August 2023 Edition

- 8/25 Rural Apprenticeship Webinar - Register Today!
- TA Resources and Tools - Supportive Services Office Hours Video, Adult Education IET RA PPT and Framework, WIOA Planning for RA PPT, and More
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8/25 Rural Apprenticeship Webinar

Rural America's Registered Apprenticeship Promising Practices

Date: August 25th
Time: 1:00-2:00pm ET

Register Here

Developing high-quality, sustainable apprenticeship programs in rural communities leveraging workforce and education resources requires unique partnerships and approaches. Hear promising practices from experts in the field including:

- Zach Boren - Senior Policy Program Manager, Center on Labor, Human Services and Population (Urban Institute)
- Lisa Petty-Hoveman - Director of Apprenticeship Programs, Economic and Workforce Development (Shasta Community College/California)
- Beth McCullers - Vice President of Sponsored Programs (Delta Health Alliance / Mississippi)
- Brooks Ann Gaston - Vice President of Community Engagement (Delta Health Alliance / Mississippi)
- Tyeshia Green - Director of Workforce Development Programs (Delta Health Alliance / Mississippi)

Speakers will discuss workforce board sponsorship and support for RA programming, and rural health care and agriculture grantees will speak about their experience with program development, challenges faced, and convening local stakeholder support for registered apprenticeship.



Office Hours Video: WIOA-Funded Supportive Services for RA Programs



In the [recently-released Workforce System RA Baseline Knowledge Report](#), the Center noted that **33% of workforce system staff did not understand how to use WIOA-funded supportive services to encourage apprentice persistence.**

Dr. Linda Angel, Deputy Executive Director of [Workforce Solutions of Central Texas](#), joined the Center us for a recent quarterly virtual Office Hours session focused on how local workforce development boards (LWDBs) can utilize WIOA funding and leverage other programs to provide supportive services for WIOA-eligible individuals participating in Registered Apprenticeship programs.

[Click here to view the Office Hours video.](#)

NAWDP Conference Session Videos: "Boosting Your Apprenticeship IQ" and "Putting Your WIOA Plan for Apprenticeship to Work"

The Center presented two interactive hybrid sessions during the National Association for Workforce Professionals (NAWDP) Annual Conference on core aspects of aligning the workforce and apprenticeship systems to over 300 workforce stakeholders. Recordings of those sessions - "Boosting Your Apprenticeship IQ" and "Putting Your WIOA Plan for Apprenticeship to Work" - are now available on the Center's website.



[Watch the video](#)

This session covered the four key Apprenticeship-related knowledge gaps identified by most workforce professionals:

- Basic Apprenticeship Knowledge
- Apprenticeship System Knowledge



[Watch the video](#)

Hear promising practices for operationalizing WIOA plans for RA, showcasing how several states are engaging, and resourcing stakeholders to drive RA adoption. This webinar will accelerate the impact workforce practitioners make for state and local boards to help employers

- Funding Knowledge
- Sharing Knowledge

The session provided an overview of key gaps in each area, fundamentals to build workforce professionals' knowledge bank, and promising practices.

and job seekers through providing information about the cohesion of system alignment and partnership along with co-enrollment and WIOA data.

Center of Excellence News

DOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA) 2030 Vision Convening

As part of the **DOL ETA 2030 Vision Convening**'s focus on increasing systems alignment and leveraging federal and state investments to create a stronger American workforce, NAWDP Chief Executive Officer Melissa Robbins (*center*), Maryland State DOL Director of the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Program Christopher MacLarion (*right*), and Safal Partners Chief Delivery Officer Katie Adams (*left*) presented on "Effectively Leveraging Partnerships and Tools to Expand Registered Apprenticeships."



Panelists spoke on the Center's work to identify and shrink alignment gaps between the workforce and RA systems and accelerate RA partnerships. Speakers provided an overview of the first-ever national **Workforce System RA Baseline Knowledge Assessment**, and Chris MacLarion provided a state-level example of increasing workforce and apprenticeship alignment.

To request virtual TA and training for your apprenticeship or workforce team, click ["Request TA" on the Center's website](#) or email RA_COE@safalpartners.com.

COABE Presentation: Expanding Employment Opportunities for Students through Pre-Apprenticeship and RA"



Expanding Employment Opportunities for your Students through Pre-Apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship

During COABE's annual national conference, the Center delivered a hybrid presentation on **"Expanding Employment Opportunities for your Students through Pre-Apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeships."**

The presentation provides adult education leaders and instructors with a foundation in RA and how to effectively

map Integrated Education and Training (IET) to Pre-Apprenticeship and RA programming, utilizing the Department of Education OCTAE IET Design Toolkit. The training accompanies the Center's recently released framework tool, **Building an**

To request virtual TA and training on aligning your adult education IET program with RA, click "[Request TA](#)" on the Center's website or email RA_COE@safalpartners.com.

California Workforce Association (CWA) WORKCON Presentations, TA Sessions

COE staff and partners presented on the Center's work at state partner California Workforce Association (CWA) Annual WORKCON conference, highlighting innovative and strategic collaborations and partnerships across California's workforce system and providing real-time TA. Judy Blanchard (*far right*), met with and provided TA resources to workforce system practitioners.



"Developing a Regional Team to Scale Apprenticeship: The Southern California Apprenticeship Network (SCAN)" - Catalyzed by CWA's statewide meetings through the COE last year, a group of partners across industry, workforce, education, and the nonprofit sector have created the SCAN as a forum for collaboration, sharing best practices and providing access to apprenticeship resources and information. Its network of 75+ forward thinking partners is already expanding apprenticeship with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board providing fiscal and administration support for network management.



The session on "What Does Workforce Really Know About Apprenticeship?" focused on findings from the Center's national Workforce System Registered Apprenticeship Baseline Knowledge Assessment, and the four core RA knowledge gaps among workforce professionals: Basic RA Knowledge, System Knowledge, Funding Knowledge, and Sharing Knowledge. Discussion focused on promising practices for shrinking those gaps.

August 30, 2023

Office Hours: Becoming a Workforce Board or Educational Entity Registered Apprenticeship Sponsor



Time: 1:00-2:00pm ET

This is the second of a two-part open discussion Office Hours series on **Technical Tips for Becoming a Registered Apprenticeship Sponsor**.

Speakers include:

- Jason Graves – Senior Director – Indiana Department of Workforce Development
- Evelyn Szpliet – Regional Director of Apprenticeship Services – Northwest Michigan Works

Participants will also receive a guide and questionnaire for identifying partners and a checklist to help you and your partners interested in sponsoring a program gather the right information to work with an apprenticeship training representative.

[Register Here](#)

September 5, 2023

California Workforce Association Meeting of the Minds (MMM) 2023

Location: Monterey, CA

Join the Center for a pre-conference workshop on "Keys to Effective Apprenticeship Partnerships." Join us for an interactive session that provides an overview of key apprenticeship stakeholders, the role(s) they play, the resources they both offer and often seek, and leave with a guide to developing an actionable partnership plan.



[Register Here](#)

November 6-8, 2023

National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP) Youth Symposium 2023

Location: Las Vegas, NV, Virtual



Join the Center at NAWDP's conference for engaging sessions on how to support in-school and Opportunity youth in registered apprenticeship programs, and helping employers develop school to apprenticeship pipelines.

We Want to Hear from You!



The Center of Excellence is seeking feedback from workforce system stakeholders, RA program sponsors and participating employers to develop a training session on how WIOA can be utilized to support RA programs.

[Click Here: RA
Program Sponsors](#)

[Click Here: Workforce System
Stakeholders](#)

Business Services Representatives (BSR) Assessment



The Next Level Now (NLN) Collaborative, in partnership with the U.S. DOL, is asking BSRs nationwide to fill out an **assessment** on topics such as registered apprenticeship. If you are a BSR, your valuable input will enable the NLN Collaborative to tailor future webinars, TA topics, and determine knowledge gaps to help you continue to serve your customer base with all the necessary and latest tools.



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