



First-Ever National Workforce System Registered Apprenticeship Baseline Knowledge Assessment

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Safal Partners and the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP) recently released the **"Workforce System Registered Apprenticeship Baseline Knowledge Assessment Report"** as part of the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Registered Apprenticeship (RA) Technical Assistance (TA) Center of Excellence on Strategic Partnerships and System Alignment. This first-ever national assessment reveals four



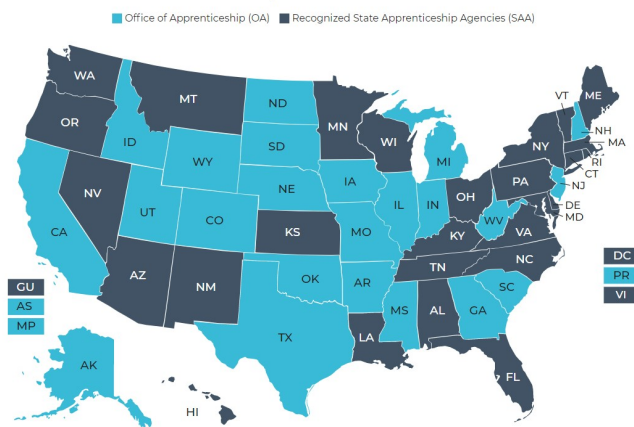
key areas in which boosting workforce professionals' knowledge can more quickly and effectively align the apprenticeship and workforce systems and expand RA nationwide.

Four knowledge gap areas are:

- Basic RA Knowledge,
- RA System Knowledge,
- RA Funding Knowledge, and
- RA Sharing Best Practices.

The Role of Apprenticeship Entities

A strong relationship with the USDOL Office of Apprenticeship (OA) or State Apprenticeship Agency (SAA) staff is critical for workforce boards to engage in apprenticeship. The assessment revealed that 40% of workforce professionals did not know what RA programs (RAPs) exist in their local area. OA and SAA staff are responsible for developing, registering, and monitoring RAPs. Having a relationship with the local OA or SAA staff helps workforce system staff know which RAPs are currently operating in their area so boards and American Job Centers (AJCs) can discuss support in a variety of ways including referring job seekers as program candidates or supporting incumbent worker upskilling.



51%

DO NOT UNDERSTAND

the role of USDOL OA or an SAA

“Very Little” = 38.88%

“None” = 12.38%

How RA Correlates with WIOA Goals

As a paid “learn and earn” workforce development strategy, RA is well aligned with six Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) primary performance measures:

- Employment in Second Quarter After Exit
- Employment in Fourth Quarter After Exit
- Median Earnings in Second Quarter After Exit
- Credential Attainment
- Measurable Skills Gains
- Effectiveness in Serving Employers

However, the Assessment revealed that nearly one in two workforce system professionals don't have a strong grasp of apprenticeship as a means for meeting their board's WIOA performance measures. Shrinking that knowledge gap can help energize boards to work more closely with industry and their local apprenticeship staff to support RAPs, better leverage federal and state funding streams, increase co-enrollment, and more efficiently deliver services across programs.

46%

DO NOT UNDERSTAND

how registered apprenticeship correlates with key WIOA performance measures

“Very Little” = 35.87%

“None” = 10.09%

Engaging Training Providers and Employers

Workforce boards can connect local training providers, RAP sponsors, and employers. Because apprenticeship is industry-driven and only exists if employers agree to hire

and provide paid on-the-job learning, workforce professionals will benefit from understanding effective employer engagement methods. However, 42% of respondents indicated they "do not understand how to communicate the benefits of RA to employers." And because RA requires related technical instruction (RTI), RAP sponsors need a high-quality training partner for instructional delivery. Workforce professionals can assist in creating those connections, starting with current training partners on their state and local Eligible Training Provider Lists (ETPLs). However, 46% of respondents indicated they "do not understand the relationship between their state or local ETPL and the RTI component of RAP."

As workforce professionals learn how to effectively talk about RA with local employers and help RAP sponsors find a high-quality training provider partner, they will be increasingly viewed as trusted talent advisors and their boards will more easily meet the "Effectiveness in Engaging Employers" WIOA performance measure.

42%

DO NOT UNDERSTAND

how to communicate benefits of registered apprenticeship to employers

"Very Little" = 31%

"None" = 11.09%

[Learn More by Downloading the Report Here](#)

The complete report, along with no-cost TA materials and resources to support apprenticeship/workforce system alignment can be found on the Center's website: <https://dolcoe.safalapps.com/>.



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