



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

June 2024 Edition

- **TA Resources and Tools** - ATR/BSR Training Series, Investing in America Agenda and RA for Opportunity Youth, Positioning Your Board for Investing in America Partnerships, Tools and Strategies for Adult Education Pre-Apprenticeship Pathway Building, and more...
- **Upcoming Events** - ATR/BSR Training Series, ACCE Convention, NAWDP Business Services Academy, SETA Fall Conference, and Maryland Workforce Association Raising the Bar Conference

TA Resources and Tools

Apprenticeship Training Representative and Business Services Representative Training Series

The Center is hosting a series of Apprenticeship Training Representative (ATR) and Business Services Representative (BSR) training workshops designed to **(1) increase BSR awareness of Registered Apprenticeship (RA) and (2) increase ATR awareness of the workforce system**. The goal of the training series is to accelerate collaboration between the two systems to increase employer adoption of RA, job seeker placements into RA programs, and leveraging multiple funding sources to support both.



The first BSR session, [Understanding Registered Apprenticeship as a Business Services Opportunity](#), can now be found on the [Center's Resources page](#). This webinar featured how RA is structured and works in concert with the workforce system, recent initiatives, funding opportunities, partners, how to speak to employers about RA, and ways that RA aligns with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

To register for upcoming sessions visit the Center's [Events page](#).

Celebrating Youth Apprenticeship Week 2024



During the inaugural [Youth Apprenticeship Week](#), the Center teamed with the [Next Level Now \(NLN\) Collaborative](#), the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training's TA hub, to co-present [Investing in America Agenda: Registered Apprenticeship and Other Pathways for Opportunity Youth](#).

Facilitated by Sara Hastings, Unit Chief of DOL ETA's Division of Youth Services, the webinar provided a comprehensive overview of the Investing in America Agenda (IAA), showcasing real-life examples of how communities and workforce systems can collaborate effectively to maximize resources. Center's apprenticeship subject matter expert (SME), Alan Dodkowitz, and NLN Project Director and workforce system SME, Melissa A. Aguilar-Southard, laid out how workforce boards and key stakeholders can leverage funds to support Opportunity Youth in new or expanded IAA-related RA programs and other career pathways. Over 800 workforce professionals attended the live event, which was recorded and has been accessed by 6225 viewers on [WorkforceGPS](#).

RA 101, 201, and BSR Training with Missouri Association of Workforce Development

As part of the Center's focused work on accelerating RA/workforce system alignment in targeted states, Center RA SMEs were invited to make three presentations at the Missouri Association for Workforce Development (MAWD)



pre-conference hosted by the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development, Office of Apprenticeship & Work-Based Learning on April 23-24. The sessions - on Apprenticeship 101, Apprenticeship 201, and RA for Business Service Representatives (BSRs) - were attended by more than 100 statewide workforce system professionals. Materials can be accessed on the [Center's Resources page](#).

Investing in American Agenda and Opportunity Youth

SETA



The Center's RA and workforce subject matter experts Melissa Aguilar-Southard and Alan Dodkowitz presented on [How the Investing in America Agenda \(IAA\) Can Provide Registered Apprenticeship Pathways for Opportunity Youth](#) at two key workforce conferences this spring - the Southeastern Employment and Training Association (SETA) Spring Conference in Cherokee, NC, and the National Youth Employment Coalition Annual Forum in Atlanta, GA. Workforce professionals, youth leaders, practitioners, policymakers, and stakeholders interested in advancing the lives of opportunity youth attended the sessions, gaining insight on IAA and RA as well as

practical next steps for engaging out-of-school, workforce-disconnected youth ages 16-24 from historically underrepresented backgrounds through RA opportunities being created through the IAA. [Access the presentation on the Center's website](#) and learn more about announced funding and projects in each state through [White House IAA State Fact Sheets](#).

Gauging Workforce Board/RA Alignment

As part of ongoing work to gather field feedback on a draft tool for the workforce system, the Center held a second webinar, [Gauging Workforce Board Alignment with Registered Apprenticeship](#) in February. Feedback gathered during this process will help the Center in its final product development to assist workforce boards in assessing their current level of alignment with the apprenticeship system and opportunities for growth. Please watch [the first part of this webinar series](#) to understand more about the identified levels of alignment with a focus on how local boards have taken next steps to further incorporate RA as a workforce solution for local jobseekers and employers.



Positioning Your Board or Organization for IAA Partnerships

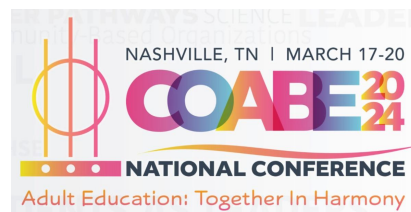


Center of Excellence RA SMEs, Alan Dodkowitz (*Safal Partners*), Brent Weil (*Wireless Infrastructure Association*), Jeff Smith (*U.S. DOL Office of Apprenticeship*), and James Disbro, (*CareerSource Suncoast*), presented on "Investing in America Agenda: Positioning your Board for Strategic Apprenticeship Partnerships" at the National Association of Workforce Boards' Forum in Washington, D.C. in March. The panel discussed core RA-related elements of the IAA and highlighted promising

practices for partnership development to access and implement funding. The presentation can be found on the Center's [resources page](#).

Tools, Strategies for Adult Education Pre-Apprenticeship Pathway Building

On March 17-20, Center partner the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) held its Annual Conference in Nashville, TN. This was the world's largest adult education conference, with 15 strands and almost 500 break-out sessions.



Center RA, education and workforce SMEs, Katie Adams and Nicole Klues were joined by Dr. Amber Gallup, Adult Education Director for the State of New Mexico Higher Education Department in presenting to adult education leaders on expanding pre-apprenticeship opportunities for adult learners. This interactive session explored tools and strategies for fostering strong partnerships between adult education programs and employers. This interactive session explored tools and strategies for fostering strong

Upcoming Events

June 13, 2024

Apprenticeship Training Representatives & Business Services Representatives Training Series



Location: Online

This series of trainings is designed to bring collaboration around RA efforts between ATRs, BSRs, Veterans' Representatives, and other workforce professionals that engage directly with employers. By collaborating, ATRs and BSRs can rapidly accelerate effective employer outreach and engagement in RA nationwide. While both ATRs and BSRs have their own unique set of responsibilities, the overlap in their respective roles related to employer engagement presents a natural opportunity to collaborate for accelerating industry's understanding and adoption of RA to build talent pipelines which will, in turn, benefit job seekers who are served by LWDB case managers.

Please register using the link below. Prior attendance is not required to participate in the Capstone Collaborative.

Capstone Collaborative:

June 13th, 11am-12:30pm ET:

[ATR and BSRs: Collaborating to Expand Registered Apprenticeship](#)

July 16-19, 2024

Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE) Convention



Location: Dallas, TX

Chambers of Commerce play a critical role in workforce building for local communities. Join Safal Partners at the ACCE 2024 Convention. We will host a TA booth for SME discussions on how your Chamber or organization can utilize RA and our presentation will showcase the Chamber RA educational toolkit TA product and findings of an RA needs assessment during ACCE focus groups.

[Register Here](#)

August 12-14, 2024

National Association for

**Workforce Development
Professionals (NAWDP)
Business Services
Academy**



Location: Hanover, MD

Center partner, NAWDP, is teaming up with host sponsor Maryland Workforce Association to offer a Business Services Academy. This academy will equip BSRs with the tools, knowledge, and expertise needed to excel in the ever-evolving landscape of business services. Participants will receive comprehensive training on core competencies, expert guidance on best practices, and career advancement and networking opportunities.

Center staff will present a workshop on "Registered Apprenticeship: An Employer Pipeline Solution and Why You Should Sell It." Participants will understand how creating RA programs meets not only your employer's needs but also WIOA performance needs.

[Register Here](#)

September 15-18, 2024

**Southeastern
Employment and Training
Association (SETA) 2024
Fall Conference**

Location: Savanna, GA



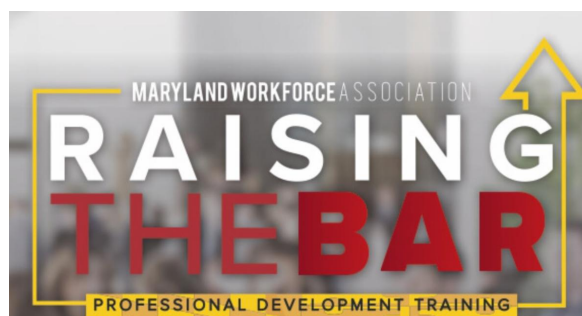
The SETA 2024 Fall Conference will gather workforce stakeholders to explore the latest trends and innovations in workforce development. The conference will feature insightful sessions, dynamic speakers, and networking opportunities. Don't miss out on this chance to connect with industry, workforce, and industry leaders.

[Follow Here](#)

September 24-26, 2024

**Maryland Workforce
Association Raising the Bar
Conference**

Location: Hanover, MD



The Maryland Workforce Association's, "Raising the Bar" Conference is a great opportunity for in-depth conversations and networking for workforce, apprenticeship, and educational professionals to discuss innovative workforce development solutions for job seekers, youth, and businesses. Learn from peers how to accelerate innovative

service delivery to key stakeholders.

[Follow Here](#)



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