TABLE OF CONTENTS

Save the Dates!
National Apprenticeship Week
Grants Management Corner
Technical Assistance Activities
Around the Wider Workforce World
Reporting Roundup
Quick Links to Key Apprenticeship Websites
Quick Links to Key Coronavirus Websites

SAVE THE DATES!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct 29</th>
<th>Nov 8-14</th>
<th>Dec 1-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategies for Resilient Apprenticeship Expansion Webinar</td>
<td>National Apprenticeship Week 2020</td>
<td>WIPS Rollout Webinars</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK: NOVEMBER 8 - 14

We are very excited to announce that National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) 2020 is scheduled for November 8-14, 2020! Let's spread the news about apprentices, apprenticeship programs, and the power and flexibility of Registered Apprenticeship to prepare a highly skilled workforce that meets employers' talent needs.

Due to COVID-19, this year we encourage partners to host virtual events. And as in past years, we hope to see events and proclamations submitted from all states and territories!
NAW 2020 will nonetheless be a critical part of our efforts to highlight apprenticeship programs and ultimately support the American workforce in the economic recovery from the impact of the global pandemic.

Please remember to go to the NAW website to register events and proclamations and use #NAW2020 across social media channels - which will be linked to the Department's social media. Let's make this the biggest celebration yet!

**GRANTS MANAGEMENT CORNER**

**WIPS Webinars - Save the Date!**

ASE and SAE 2020 grantees, Workforce Integrated Reporting System (WIPS) reporting is on the way. Grantees will start reporting performance data into WIPS starting with the quarter ending December 31, 2020, which is due February 14, 2021. As we discussed in last month's newsletter, if you have multiple awarded grants, they are considered active, and grantees should be operating and managing them concurrently. While the SAE 2020 grants are just getting started and DOL wouldn't necessarily expect participants for that grant yet, all ASE grants should have some participants to report and data systems in operation at this point in the period of performance. In preparation, mark your calendars for a five-part training series on the WIPS reporting system to take place every Tuesday and Thursday in the first half of December:

- December 1 from 4 to 5 p.m. ET
- December 3 from 4 to 5 p.m. ET
- December 8 from 3 to 4 p.m. ET
- December 10 from 3 to 4 p.m. ET
- December 15 from 3 to 4 p.m. ET

Please save the dates and watch your email for details to come.

**New SAE 2020 Resource Page**

SAE 2020 grantees should bookmark a new SAE 2020 Grant Resources page in the Apprenticeship Community. While the content in the Apprenticeship Community is helpful to anyone working to expand apprenticeship opportunities, this page will be your go-to site for all things specific to the SAE 2020 grant funds.

**Defining Your Grant: Leveraged Resources**

While SAE and ASE grants don't require matching funds, we encourage grantees to leverage resources. "Leveraged resources" are funds used in coordination with the grant to support the grant's outcomes. Leveraged funds may come from other federal resources, like Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs, or nonfederal resources, like state or private grant funds, and they may be cash or in-kind contributions toward the success of your
Registered Apprenticeship expansion grant.

Leveraging resources extends the impact of the federal expansion grant funding and raises your odds of achieving your grant goals. It also can be a win-win for each funding source. For example, WIOA funds can be used to support training, on-the-job learning, wraparound support services, and case management for apprentices, while apprenticeship often leads to positive outcomes in WIOA's employment, retention, earnings, and credential attainment performance indicators where participants are co-enrolled.

Grant activity funded by other programs should be tracked, and reported on the ETA-9130 as well as in narrative reports required under those programs. For the apprenticeship expansion grants, we encourage you to report on leveraged resources and co-enrollment efforts in Section V of the Quarterly Narrative Report.

New DOL Apprenticeship Resources

DOL recently launched a few new resources that may be of interest:

- The new Discover Apprenticeship campaign includes brief videos aimed at prospective apprentices and business sponsors. States are welcome to use these videos to support their outreach efforts. You can add them to your state apprenticeship website, share them on social media, link to them when you reach out to prospective sponsors or apprentices, play them during recruitment events, and more!
- A new Investment Opportunities page on DOL's apprenticeship.gov website shows open funding opportunities, as well as information on previously awarded grants. This includes abstracts highlighting the goals and key strategies of each ASE and SAE 2020 grantees.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

Resiliency Strategies Webinar

Please join us on Thursday, October 29, 2020, from 12 to 1 p.m. ET to explore strategies for resilient apprenticeship expansion. We will look at five elements of resiliency and resources you can use to support various apprenticeship stakeholders, diversification of industries and apprentices, and continued growth of Registered Apprenticeship programs in today's economy. Register today!

New Employer Engagement Resource

DOL's H1-B Scaling Apprenticeship Project has released a short expert dialogue on employer engagement strategies. It is full of very practical recommendations on how to successfully engage, communicate, and work with employers on adopting and expanding apprenticeships.
Increasing Apprenticeship Diversity Innovation Cohort Launched

We’re excited to welcome apprenticeship teams from Arizona, Colorado, Washington, D.C., Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, and North Dakota into our latest Innovation Cohort. The cohort will explore challenges, discuss solutions, share ideas, and develop action plans to improve apprenticeship diversity and inclusion. Thank you to all the states that applied; coaches will continue to work with all interested states to support ongoing diversity efforts.

A Deeper Dive into Apprenticeship Expansion Promising Practices- Outreach and Business Engagement

As an employer-driven model, successful and sustained Registered Apprenticeship expansion demands effective business engagement strategies. The new Outreach and Business Engagement promising practices brief explores ways states are increasing awareness-building activities and incorporating policies and practices that increase business demand for apprenticeship. For example, Oregon and New Hampshire are addressing employer concerns about costs with solid return on investment information; Colorado and Mississippi are using social media to conduct outreach; and Montana is partnering with employer associations to open doors and strengthen credibility. Explore the new SAE promising practices briefs to learn more!

SAE 2020 TA Orientation Recording Now Available

SAE 2020 grantees-did you miss or want to share the SAE 2020 Technical Assistance (TA) Orientation earlier this month? You can find the recording and PowerPoint here.

AROUND THE WIDER WORKFORCE WORLD

As mentioned when we introduced the new co-enrollment policy for Registered Apprenticeship grants a couple of months ago, co-enrollment is a means to provide comprehensive assistance and services to better help grant participants and improve a grant's performance numbers. We will use this space to introduce other DOL grant programs with which you may be able to partner to increase co-enrollments or provide resources. This month? Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs.
The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) administers core and discretionary programs authorized under WIOA that help connect employers with skilled workers seeking employment and help prepare workers for employment. WIOA programs can provide funding for classroom training, work-based learning opportunities, and supportive services.

**Workforce programs for eligible adults, youth, and dislocated workers** provide services through the American Job Center (AJC) network. Partnering with any of these programs or AJCs potentially increases enrollment and co-enrollment numbers while also helping states reach one overarching goal of all state apprenticeship and WIOA grants - to further integrate the workforce and apprenticeship systems. Download the following .pdf tip sheets to learn more!

- [Collaboration Opportunities: WIOA Youth Programs and Apprenticeship](#), September 28, 2020
- [Work-Based Learning Desk Reference](#) (Apprenticeship, Pre-Apprenticeship, Internships, OJT, etc.), August 2020
- [WIOA and Registered Apprenticeship Desk Reference](#), May 7, 2020

### REPORTING ROUNDPUP

**Next Quarterly Reporting Due Date: November 14, 2020**

**SAE Reporting Updates: SAE Grant Extensions Edition**

October 2020 is the end of the SAE period of performance (PoP), but, in light of recent significant changes in our economy and social distancing's impacts on work and learning, DOL's Office of Financial Administration revisited previous decisions and determined that SAE grantees are eligible for extensions, with a preference for extensions where the grantee provides a strong justification beyond spending down money.

Grantees should discuss PoP extensions related to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic with their federal project officer (FPO). Given the timeframe, the DOL Office of Apprenticeship (OA) would consider most SAE grant extension requests to be related to COVID-19. Approval of PoP extension requests and their length is at DOL discretion; so, for instance, if you submit a request for a one-year extension, OA may not approve it, may approve it as is, or may approve it for a shorter length of time. Any requests will be viewed with a critical eye and require a substantive justification, so please ensure that your PoP extension request addresses the following questions:

- How will your grant performance be substantially different if given extra time?
- What are the specific goals that you will accomplish during the extension period, and how do you intend to accomplish them?
- What are the specific tasks you will undertake and timelines you will follow to ensure you complete all unfinished activities by the proposed extended end date? Please be sure to include a detailed work plan in your request.
- How would the extension benefit the U.S. Government and the Department of Labor?

PoP extension requests should be submitted during the last quarter of the grant's current PoP.
ASE Reporting Updates

**WIPS Reporting.** As outlined above, WIPS is coming!! Your data systems should be up and running to track participants through their programs so that your reporting is accurate. The BETA testers will report November 14, 2020, into WIPS, and all grantees will begin WIPS training in December (see dates above). Barring any unforeseen circumstances with testing, all grantees will begin uploading into WIPS for the report due February 14, 2021.

**Given the number of grantees entering the system, the anticipated learning curve bumps, and resulting error messages, we strongly encourage all grantees to plan to upload 10 days prior to the due date for the first few reports. That will allow the maximum amount of time to resolve any errors.**

We are not yet providing WIPS accounts to the general population - those accounts and the process of determining who will get those accounts will be discussed during the December trainings. In the meantime, please register at WFGPS to ensure notification of any updated reporting materials being posted.

**ASE Grant Performance.** ASE grants are now one-third of the way through the period of performance. In a pre-COVID world, DOL would have expected the expenditures and outcomes to be at roughly one-third of the total as well. DOL continues to get reports from the field that apprenticeship has been affected, certainly, but has not slowed as dramatically as initially feared. Please remember that all of these State grants are discretionary grant projects unto themselves, and activity/expenditures should be viewed as in addition to those which are funded every year through programmatic funding. ASE activity and money should not be held until SAE or program monies are expended but should be running concurrently. Overall, ASE performance outcome numbers are much less than one-third of the target number of participants, and expenditures are not below expectation. Please reach out to your TA Coach and FPO if you need help developing a plan to manage your State's grant performance.

SAE 2020 Reporting Updates

SAE 2020 Grantees are expected to submit the QNRs and 9130s this quarter. See above dates for WIPS training. You are required to submit the QPR on February 14, 2020. In the meantime, familiarize yourself with the PIRL and get your case management system online. See the [SAE 2020 Technical Assistance Orientation Webinar](#) for information regarding the definition of participant. Should you have any queries about reporting timelines and requirements, please contact your FPO.
QUICK LINKS TO KEY APPRENTICESHIP WEBSITES

- Office of Grants Management closeout package and frequently asked questions (FAQs)
- Apprenticeship Inclusion Models (AIM) Resource Library
- SAE/General Apprenticeship Community
- ETA's Manage Your Awarded Grant
- Apprenticeship.gov
- ASE Grants Community
- Online courses on grant closeout and audit resolution

QUICK LINKS TO KEY CORONAVIRUS WEBSITES

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources at Workforce GPS (including ETA COVID-19 FAQs)
- Coronavirus.gov
- National Governors Association's COVID-19: What You Need to Know page
- DOL Coronavirus Resources page

"Have a vision. Be demanding."

~ Colin Powell, Former Secretary of State, Retired Four-Star General

Copyright © 2020. All Rights Reserved.
Distributed by Maher & Maher on behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship