Youth Apprenticeship Intermediaries play a vital role in expanding and strengthening Registered Apprenticeship for the youth at the state, regional, and national level. The four Intermediaries—Jobs for the Future (JFF), NetAmerica, Urban Institute, and ICF—and the YARG grantees can work together to develop and/or strengthen youth apprenticeship programs by infusing the apprenticeship model as the "go-to" human capital solution in national, regional, and state career readiness for various career paths through the following activities:

- Train youth apprentices across various industries
- Increase youth apprenticeship brand awareness
- Host employer/industry meetings and conferences
- Connect high school students to employers under a Registered Apprenticeship program
- Integrate youth apprenticeship into school systems
- Create new apprenticeship programs or expand existing ones
- Develop best practices and success stories

Through the first year of their contracts, the youth intermediaries have identified and tested intentional strategies to reach traditionally underrepresented population and diversify the pipeline of talent into high-skill, high-demand occupations.

Jobs For the Future (JFF)

Project Summary: Focusing on strengthening State & local partnerships, expansion of intermediaries, and providing common guidance to industry.

Industries: Information Technology, Insurance, Manufacturing, Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, Human Resources

Contact: Andrea Messing-Mathie | amessingmathie@jff.org

NetAmerica

Project Summary: Providing equitable access to underserved populations by creating and expanding career pathways in registered apprenticeships for youth; offering support to employers and stakeholders through technical assistance; and forging partnerships creating a consortia with the ability to share resources.

Industries: Healthcare and Health IT
ICF
Project Summary: Promoting sustainable development of cybersecurity apprenticeship programs for youth aged 16-21.
Industries: Cybersecurity
Contact: Mark Ouellette | mark.ouellette@icf.com

Urban Institute
Project Summary: Linking schools, colleges, employers, workforce development organizations, and other stakeholders to increase the quality and quantity of youth apprenticeships.
Industries: Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing, Insurance, Automotive, Information Technology
Contact: Bob Lerman | blerman@urban.org

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (ACA) Accepting Nominations: June 3 Deadline

The Department of Labor (DOL) has re-launched the Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (ACA) and is accepting membership nominations until June 3. DOL is looking to attract a diverse and balanced group of executive leaders for its membership.

The ACA will serve without compensation to provide advice and recommendations on ways to better utilize the apprenticeship training model in order to provide equitable career pathways that advance the dignity of work for everyone. The ACA will help the Department develop a modern and streamlined apprenticeship system that works for all communities and across all industries.

Instructions on how to apply or nominate someone can be found at these links:

ACA Landing Page
Federal Register Notice

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
WEBINAR
“Sustaining Your YARG Program”
Wednesday, May 12, 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST

Please join us for the Sustaining Your Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grant (YARG) Program webinar on Wednesday, May 12 from 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST. This webinar will provide an
opportunity to see sustainability from different perspectives: thinking, planning, and implementation – and how to capture and prepare for grant continuation from the outset. Grantees will have an opportunity to ask questions of the presenters (TA Coach and YARG Grantees).

If you haven't already done so, register here. You don't want to miss this!

CEREMONY
“Grantee Achievements in Year One”
Wednesday, June 16, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST

Please join us to celebrate your achievements performed during Year 1 of the Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grant Program. We are inviting each grant program to share a lesson learned and one achievement during a special year-end peer-to-peer scheduled for June 16, 2021.

Your coaches will be reaching out to you to help you prepare your remarks for a three-minute presentation, and gather information that will be placed into the celebration presentation. Information will be gathering will include the following:

- One lesson learned statement
- One achievement statement
- Photo of Grant Program Lead
- Organization logo

Please let us know if you have any questions. Your coach will be reaching out soon to start preparations. All material must be submitted by May 28, 2021. Your coach may submit your materials on behalf or you can send the materials to the YARG mailbox, Youth.AS.Ready@dol.gov.

WEBINAR
"Youth Apprenticeship Intermediary Exchange"
Wednesday, June 23, 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST

The Office of Apprenticeship will host the Youth Apprenticeship Intermediaries (YAI) and Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grants (YARG) Exchange. The exchange event will provide an opportunity for the Youth Intermediaries to present their respective project activities, as well as resources and support available to the YARG grantees. Following the presentations, the Youth Intermediaries and YARG grantees will have an opportunity to participate in an open discussion on how YAI and YARG can partner and leverage resources to expand Youth Registered Apprenticeship. DOL staff will moderate the event. Additional information and meeting invites will be coming soon.

WEBCAST SYNOPSIS
“Co-Enrollment Across Apprenticeship Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements”

This March 2021 webcast was conducted by the Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (DOL/ETA) to answer grantees’ co-enrollment questions. We have
created an easy-to-read synopsis of the presentation, which includes all the salient information for YARG grantees:

- The “what, why, and how” of co-enrollment.
- Example scenarios illustrating when co-enrollment is and is not allowable.
- FAQs on co-enrollment policies for apprenticeship appropriated funds.
- The roles and responsibilities of grantees, contractors, cooperative agreements and a list of additional contacts.

Find the synopsis here.

You can access the Webcast and Office of Apprenticeships (OA) Co-enrollment Policy Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) at:

- Webcast
- OA co-enrollment FAQ

We encourage you to view this webcast and the corresponding co-enrollment policy FAQs referenced and linked to in the presentation. If you have any questions, please reach out to your Federal Project Officer (FPO) or Contracting Officer representative (COR), as appropriate.

RESOURCES

Youth Apprenticeship Aligned Industry Trends

Youth Apprenticeship Readiness programs are reaching into a wide variety of industries. The YARG team thought our grantees would benefit from a resource that explores current trends in some of these fields. This useful reference includes data on industries in which two or more YARG programs are being developed – Advanced Manufacturing, Construction, Financial Services, Health Care, Hospitality, and Information Technology. It also provides information on high-level trends in other industries where YARG grantees have program connections.

What you’ll find:
- A graphical look at historical trends in youth employment over a span of ten years.
- Overall top occupations and industries for youth and younger adult age groups.
- Specific industry data such as average job openings per month, average weekly earnings, top projected jobs, and more.

Find it on the YARG Community here.

GRANT REPORTING

The next reporting period is approaching on May 15, 2021. In preparation for this reporting period, the Office of Apprenticeship Performance Team recommends that YARG grantees:

a. Submit their data files into the Workforce Integrated Performance System (WIPS) early and as many times as necessary;
b. Attend WIPS Office Hours for trouble-shooting, responses to questions, etc.;
c. Submit reporting- and data-related questions to the WIPS help desk; and

d. Submit policy-related questions to the YouthASReady.Grants@dol.gov. (Don’t forget to copy your FPO!)

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