



AMERICAN APPRENTICESHIPS

INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE

In April, President Barack Obama highlighted the need to advance apprenticeships as a job-driven strategy – to connect ready-to-work Americans with ready-to-be-filled jobs. To spur more apprenticeships, the President announced a \$100 million investment called American Apprenticeship Grants to create partnerships among companies and others to increase apprenticeships in growing industries, align apprenticeships to pathways for further learning and career development, and scale-up apprenticeship programs that work.

Apprenticeships are a win-win: They provide workers with sturdy rungs on a ladder of opportunity and employers with the skilled workers they need to grow their businesses. We're not just talking about electricians and carpenters. The apprenticeship model is currently working in your industry, such as in Health Information Technology, Mechatronics, Public Transportation, Telecommunications, Construction, and Energy Auditing.

Calling on Business: Industry Roundtables

To implement the President's commitment, the United States Department of Labor's Office of Apprenticeship is convening roundtables with leaders in key high-growth industry sectors to gauge interest in the apprenticeship model and to make sure these new investments meet business needs for skilled workers. Recruitment, hiring, training, certifications, credentials, technology, and any other areas of talent development will be on the table for discussion. The Office of Apprenticeship expects to convene these roundtables June 2014, in advance of an announcement later this year of grant opportunities made possible through Presidential Executive Actions.

- **June 4** - Transportation and Logistics - **Atlanta**
- **June 6** - Healthcare - **Boston**
- **June 12** - Construction - **Washington, DC**
- **June 17** - Energy - **Houston**
- **June 19** - Manufacturing - **Chicago**
- **June 27** - Information Technology - **San Francisco**

American Apprenticeships

Later this year, the Department of Labor will make \$100 million in existing H-1B funds available for American Apprenticeship Grants to reward partnerships that help more workers participate in apprenticeships. The new American Apprenticeship Grants competition – which will be launched in the fall – will focus on partnerships between private and public organizations that:

- **Launch apprenticeship models in new, high-growth fields:** Many fast-growing occupations and industries with open positions, such as in information technology, high-tech services, healthcare, and advanced manufacturing, have an opportunity to adopt and adapt apprenticeship programs, to meet their skilled workforce needs.
- **Align apprenticeships to pathways for further learning and career advancement:** Apprenticeships that embed industry-recognized skills certifications or reward workplace learning with college credit provide an affordable educational pathway for those who need to earn while they learn.
- **Scale apprenticeship models that work:** Across the country, there are pockets of excellence in apprenticeship, but all too often these successful models are unknown in other regions or to other employers. These grants will invest in innovations and strategies to scale apprenticeships – including marketing the value of apprenticeships, increasing the return on investment for workers, and building national and regional partnerships to expand apprenticeships.

