Month	Day	Time	Event	Presenter	Format	Description
January	1/11/27	12 - 1:30 PM	Program Launch	Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support	Virtual	Get some high-level onboarding information: points of contact, expectations, events, travel reimbursement procedures, etc.
February	2/8/27	12 - 1 PM	Tell Your Story	Amiel Harper - The Morpheus Consultancy	Virtual	Don't just tell us your story. Have a goal in mind. What do you want the audience to do or feel when they walk away?
March	3/8/27	12 - 1 PM	Workplace Communication Skills	Jalissa Jones - Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support	Virtual	How do you recognize different communication styles? How do you adapt your style to deliver a clear message in a way that others find engaging? How do you adapt your style to fit different mediums (print, podcast, panel, etc.)?
April	4/12/27	12 - 1 PM	Building Talking Points for Public Relations	Debra Lawrence - Business and Career Services, Inc.	Virtual	As an Ambassador, you represent your company as you're attending events. A fundamental skill of public relations is knowing how to prep for an interview. Learn the art of drafting talking points and a few other basics of public relations.
May	5/10/27	12 - 1 PM	Community of Practice - Barriers to Succeeding	Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support	Virtual	Do you need help lining up a speaking opportunity? Is there anything that staff can help you problem-solve? Join us for an informal, honest conversation geared towards helping you get the most out of this program.
June	TBD	TBD	In Person Networking, Social Media, & Training Event	TBD	In Person	Join us for an all-day in-person event. We'll have training and networking opportunities throughout the day. We will also take some time to film a social media campaign for Apprenticeship Illinois.
June	6/14/27	12 - 1 PM	Introduction to Essential Employability Skills	David Jaeger/Susan Meehan - Zurich North America	Virtual	Our goal for you as Ambassadors is to give you the skills to be the next generation of leaders in business. Learn how to lead by example, how to grow in resilience, and the art of conversation.
July	7/12/27	12-1 PM	Navigating Challenges with Leadership: Reflection and Insight	David Jaeger/Susan Meehan - Zurich North America	Virtual	As a leader, you have to think about the long game. Learn practical skills in overcoming burnout, taking accountability, and leading through self-awareness. The goal is to help build your capacity for endurance as you grow in your career.
August	8/16/27	12 - 1 PM	Verbal De-Escalation	Kevin Carter - Missouri Baptist Children's Home	Virtual	Verbal de-escalation starts with a human connection. You'll explore the difference between traditional authoritarian aproaches and authentic connection. Learn how all behavior functions as communication, and examine precipitating factors such as unmet needs, hunger, stress, and cultural experiences.
September	7/13/27	12 - 1 PM	Your Network is Your Net Worth	Lori Kim - Microsoft	Virtual	Leverage LinkedIn and AI to build social currency. Learn how to build authentic relationships that open doors throughout your career and practical ways to use LinkedIn to increase your visibility, credibility, and influence.
October	10/11/27	12 - 1 PM	Financial Literacy	Jasmine Thomas - Revolution Workshop	Virtual	Everybody has a different starting place with their finances. Having a good grasp of the basics, like credit-building and budgeting, seem easy on the surface, but in reality require some honest conversations with ourselves. Building up your finances, however, can free up your mind to focus on the bigger picture of your career.
November	11/8/27	12 - 1 PM	COP - Year in Review - Highs and Lows	Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support	Virtual	As we wrap up the year, what are your future plans? How can we help you get there? Join us for an informal, honest conversation to wrap up your year in the cohort.
December	12/9/27	8:30 - 11:30 AM	Program Close & Social Media Activity	Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support	In Person	Join the IWIB Work-Based Learning & Apprenticeship Committee for an award ceremony to wrap up the year. At this event, we will take a few moments to film a short video for Apprenticeship Illinois' social media to hear what you learned as an Apprentice Ambassador.