



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

Bruce Rauner, Governor



APPRENTICESHIP IN ILLINOIS

- In 2016, DCEO was awarded two U.S. Department of Labor grants totaling ~ \$2 million to support Illinois' apprenticeship expansion efforts.
- Apprenticeships can create career pathways for youth and adults that lead to successful, long-term careers and provides industries with a highly skilled workforce.
- Employers can design pathways that will ensure they have a pipeline of workers who move into positions requiring advanced skills as they gain experience and knowledge.
- Recently DCEO funded apprenticeships focused on the following sectors: Information Technology (IT); Manufacturing; Healthcare; Construction and Trades; and Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics (TDL)
- Goal is to **expand** apprenticeship outside the “traditional” industry sectors utilizing apprenticeship and make available to all
- DCEO offers workforce grants that fund apprenticeship:
 - Apprenticeship Adult Programs
 - Apprenticeship Youth Programs
 - Talent Pipeline Programs

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APPRENTICESHIP FUNDING

Apprenticeship Adult Programs

- Funds regional initiatives that rapidly expand Registered Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship programs for adults
- Registered Apprenticeship is a flexible training system that combines job related technical instruction with structured on-the-job learning experiences

Apprenticeship Youth Programs

- Current youth programs are pilots and spread across three targeted economic development regions: Northeast, North Central and Southern and encompass four identified industries: healthcare, IT, construction, and manufacturing
- Target in-school and out-of-school youth facing multiple barriers to employment
- Combines academic learning with a work-based learning environment leading to industry recognized credentials

Talent Pipeline Programs

- Funds workforce projects that connect talent strategies with business needs
- Provide training services to businesses and workers impacted or at risk of being impacted by company closures or layoffs

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

ILLINOIS TALENT PIPELINE PROGRAM

The Illinois Talent Pipeline Program uses strategies to train workers who can contribute to a companies' growth and success. Projects funded under this program must be aligned with the priorities outlined in Illinois' Unified Workforce Plan and are intended to develop sustainable work-based learning programs to help Illinois companies retain and train current workers and hire new staff. A primary focus of the program is to provide training services to businesses and workers impacted or at risk of being impacted by company closures or layoffs. Grantees will facilitate or provide skill upgrade training to WIOA eligible workers or incumbent workers at risk of dislocation as a layoff aversion strategy.

The State of Illinois considers a layoff averted when:

- A worker's job is saved with an existing employer that is at risk of downsizing or closing; or
- A worker at risk of dislocation transitions to a different job with the same employer or a new job with a different employer and experiences no or minimal unemployment.

WIOA STATEWIDE WORKFORCE INNOVATION PROGRAM

The purpose of the Statewide Workforce Innovation Program is to address priorities identified in the State of Illinois Workforce Plan that coordinates workforce, education, and economic development services that break down barriers to accessing job-driven training resulting in employment opportunities, and to assist in the effective and efficient implementation of WIOA regulations. Pilot projects funded under this NOFO will support the following goals and objectives:

- Sector Partnership Projects that identify regional needs and priorities including state, regional, and/or local training.
- Innovative workforce pilot and research projects that coordinate the workforce, education and economic development services that respond to the talent pipeline needs
- Priority population pilot projects that break down barriers to accessing job-driven training that will result in employment opportunities for all Illinois workers.
- Statewide technical assistance and WIOA implementation activities projects that will assist in the effective and efficient implementation of WIOA regulations at the state and regional level.

<https://www.illinoisworknet.com/ApprenticeshipPlus>

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