# ApprenticeshipUSA: Building a Skilled American Workforce

# Overview of Opportunity

Today, more than ever, building a strong pipeline of skilled American workers is critical for companies to grow their business and compete in the 21st century global economy. Top companies and organizations are leading the way in developing and training a world-class workforce by partnering with ApprenticeshipUSA.

ApprenticeshipUSA is a way for companies to document, organize, and showcase their current work-based learning and apprenticeship programs that meet industry and national standards for registration with the U.S Department of Labor. ApprenticeshipUSA promotes flexible apprenticeship models that can be customized to meet the needs of nearly every type of business, and is integrated into existing training and human resource development practices. It's an employer-driven training model that combines on-the-job learning with related classroom instruction to increase an apprentice's skill level, opportunities, and wages.

There has never been a better time for an employer to develop their own ApprenticeshipUSA program. Federal and state resources are available to assist employers to start and expand ApprenticeshipUSA programs and to assist workers in accessing education and training opportunities.

# Why Register Your Apprenticeship Program?

#### **Technical Assistance and Support**

Your program will join the ApprenticeshipUSA system, which provides access to a national network of expertise, customer service, and support at no charge. ApprenticeshipUSA exemplifies high standards, instructional rigor and quality training programs. The U.S. Department of Labor provides technical assistance to companies on how to take advantage of federal and state benefits and programs, assists with the



registration process, and can help guide companies in the development of occupational competencies.

#### **National Credential**

Graduates of ApprenticeshipUSA programs earn a national, industry-recognized credential.



#### **Quality Standards**

Registration means the program has met national and independent standards for quality and rigor. Registration tells prospective employees, customers and suppliers that you invest in your workforce and that you believe your employees are your most important asset!

#### Tax Credits

In many states, businesses can qualify for tax credits related to apprenticeship programs. In addition, employers may be able to claim some expenses for training as a federal tax credit.

#### Federal Resources

Businesses and apprentices can access funding and other resources from many federal programs to help support their ApprenticeshipUSA programs.

## What Federal Resources are Available to Support ApprenticeshipUSA programs?

- Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Funds. Over \$1 billion for employment and training services is available across the country. WIOA can assist apprenticeship programs by providing training funds to support on-the-job training and related instruction, as well as provide supportive services to help apprentices.
- Federal Financial Aid for Apprentices. Some apprentices may be eligible for Federal Financial Aid. If the apprenticeship is connected to a school's program of study, then apprentices may be eligible for Pell Grants, \$3,000 on average per apprentice, and the school may choose to provide federal workstudy grants, \$2,000 on average per apprentice.
- Support for Veteran Apprentices.

ApprenticeshipUSA programs can assist their current and future Veteran apprentices with the benefits they've earned through their service. Veterans who qualify for the GI Bill can receive a monthly stipend (paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs) in addition to the wages they receive in an apprenticeship.

# Be an ApprenticeshipUSA LEADER

All across America, companies, industry associations, educational institutions, and others are coming together to make new commitments and to help lead on apprenticeship. To learn more about the LEADER program and to see a full list of ApprenticeshipUSA LEADERs, visit www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/.



## How to Connect with ApprenticeshipUSA Resources

To learn more about ApprenticeshipUSA, access an employer toolkit to start an apprenticeship program or to find out how to leverage Federal resources, visit www.dol.gov/apprenticeship.

For additional information or to contact the Department's Office of Apprenticeship, email oa.administrator@dol.gov or call 202-693-2796.