

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND 15C



Registered Apprenticeship programs are a proven approach to preparing workers for in-demand jobs and meeting the needs of business for a highly skilled workforce that can innovate and adapt. The Registered Apprenticeship Development Fund is available to increase the number of registered apprentices in Iowa by providing training grants for small-to-mid-sized registered apprenticeship programs in high-demand occupations. The program is administered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) in coordination with the United States Department of Labor (DOL), Office of Apprenticeship (OA).

A registered apprenticeship is an employer-driven model that combines on-the-job learning with related classroom instruction to increase the apprentice's skill level and wages. It's a flexible training strategy customized to meet the needs of every business and can be integrated into current training and HR development strategies. Apprenticeship training is an "earn while you learn" model because apprentices receive a paycheck while learning on the job. Over 636,000 apprentices participate every year in nearly 26,000 registered programs across the country. In Iowa, nearly 800 registered programs are training about 8,000 apprentices.

BENEFITS FOR BUSINESS

- Higher productivity
- Highly skilled employees
- Reduced turnover costs

BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYERS

- Increased skills
- Higher wages
- National credentials
- Career advancement



REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS STRETCH BEYOND THE TRADES

Although apprenticeships are often thought of as a training model for construction-related industries, the application is much more extensive. There are apprentices in over 1,000 occupations, including careers in healthcare, advanced manufacturing, energy, transportation, logistics and more. In Iowa, apprenticeship opportunities continue to expand with new programs and occupations added each year. The possibilities of this effective training model are endless.



Iowa Workforce Development

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REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND

The fund provides \$760,000 annually to support the growth of registered apprenticeship programs in high-demand occupations. Competitive grants are available annually for registered apprenticeship programs that create a new program with an eligible high-demand occupation or add an eligible high-demand occupation to their existing program.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A sponsor must have a registered apprenticeship program that meets DOL/OA specific requirements and standards to be eligible to apply.
- Must have 20 or less registered apprentices.
- 70% of apprentices must reside in Iowa; the remainder must reside in states contiguous to Iowa.
- Occupations must be considered “high-demand” by Iowa State Workforce Development Board and community colleges in consultation with IEDA.
- Programs are eligible to apply for a Registered Apprenticeship Development Fund grant during the January application window of the calendar year after they create a Registered Apprenticeship program with a high-demand occupation or add a high-demand occupation to an existing program.

TRAINING GRANTS

- Online applications open January 1, are accepted from any Iowa-registered DOL/OA sponsor and are due by February 1 based on the registered apprenticeship program information from the previous calendar year.
- Applicants can only apply for 15C during the calendar year they are eligible.
- Funds awarded may only be used to help cover the cost of conducting and maintaining an apprenticeship training program. Funds cannot be applied toward pre-apprenticeship program expenses.
- Applicants are eligible to receive up to \$25,000 per application for each eligible occupation.
- Applicants can apply for more than one grant if they have multiple eligible occupations within their registered apprenticeship program; grant awards for applicants receiving more than one grant will be capped at \$50,000.

For more information on the training grants or to apply, visit: earnandlearniowa.gov/ra-funding

BECOME A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP SPONSOR

Becoming a registered apprenticeship sponsor can prepare your company to build and sustain a high-skilled workforce, now and in the future. Visit earnandlearniowa.gov to learn more.

QUESTIONS

To learn more, contact Registered Apprenticeship Program Coordinator Kris Byam at **515-725-3663** or kristopher.byam@iwd.iowa.gov