

Youth Resource Connections

NEWSLETTER

Youth Resource Connections

is a monthly newsletter that provides information, resources, and tools to workforce professionals who work every day to impact the lives of youth and young adults.

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Headlines

ETA Hosted the WIOA Youth Program COVID-19 Virtual Session. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) hosted the **WIOA Youth Program COVID-19 Virtual Session on Monday, May 4th at 2pm (ET)**. During this event, ETA answered questions, shared resources, and passed along best practices submitted in advance of the event. A recording of the webinar will be posted within the week. To view the recording of this event as well as the PowerPoint, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2020/04/20/14/07/WIOA-Youth-Program-COVID-19-Session>.

ETA Establishes a COVID-19 Resource Page for Technical Assistance and Q's and A's. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has developed a series of technical assistance resources and frequently asked questions (FAQs) to address grants management questions related to Coronavirus (COVID-19) to help state and local workforce leaders, and other stakeholders and partners to assist the public workforce system during this crisis. To view the resource page, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/resources/2020/03/18/23/35/Coronavirus-COVID-19-Resources>.

Looking for more information and resources to support your youth program?



Visit the **Youth Connections Community of Practice** for the latest training, promising practices, and technical assistance tools.

Headlines

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ETA Issues TEGL 16-19 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Activities Program Allotments for Program Year (PY) 2020; PY 2020 Allotments for the Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES) Program and the Allotments of Workforce Information Grants to States for PY 2020. This TEN provides information to states and outlying areas on WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Activities program allotments for PY 2020; PY 2020 allotments for the Wagner-Peyser Act ES Program, as required by section 6(b)(5) of the Wagner-Peyser Act, as amended; and the allotments of Workforce Information Grants to states for PY 2020. To obtain additional information, visit: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=8295.

ETA Publishes WIOA 2020 Lower Living Standard Income Level. The Employment and Training Administration within the Department of Labor (DOL) published the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) in the [April 30 Federal REGISTER](#). The LLSIL is used for several purposes under the WIOA. Specifically, WIOA SEC.3(36) defines the term “low-income individual” for eligibility purposes, and Sections 127(b)(2)(C) and 132(b)(1)(B)(V)(IV) define the terms “disadvantaged youth” and “disadvantaged adult” in terms of the poverty line or LLSIL for State formula allotments. The governor and state and local workforce development boards use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for youth and adults for certain services. ETA encourages governors and state/local boards to consult the WIOA Final Rule and ETA guidance for more specific guidance in applying LLSIL to program requirements.

DOL Seeks Comments on its DOL-Only Performance Accountability, Information, and Reporting System. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) within the Department of Labor (DOL) has published a request in the [April 22 Federal REGISTER](#). This request fulfills Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) reporting requirements regarding the collection of performance indicators described in Sec. 116(b)(2)(A). Requirements for state level collection of this data for the programs contained in this collection are based on WIOA requirements. As part of this information collection request, ETA has made changes to the Participant Individual Record Layout (ETA-9172), (Program) Performance Report (ETA-9173-APPSHP) to facilitate State and grantee performance reporting. In particular, as part of the effort to streamline program performance reporting for ETA grants with significant apprenticeship components as a primary goal of the program (Apprenticeship grants), the agency is adding the performance information collection requirements for Apprenticeship grants. DOL also is adding a new information collection requirement to this ICR: the Apprenticeship Outreach: Organization/Employer Record Layout. **Comments due: May 22.**

Headlines

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DOL Seeks Comments Concerning the Collection of Data for American Apprenticeship Initiative Grants. The Employment and Training Administration within the Department of Labor (DOL) has published a request in the [April 15 Federal REGISTER](#). These grants are designed to support grantees in providing education, training, and job placement assistance through Registered Apprenticeship programs in occupations and/or industries that have high-growth potential for which employers are using H-1B visas to hire foreign workers. **Comments due: June 15.**

DOL Announces \$91.8 Million Funding Opportunity to Assist America's Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the availability of up to \$91.8 million in grant funding to support the economic stability of farmworkers through the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP). Overseen by the department's Employment and Training Administration (ETA), the NFJP is a nationally directed, locally administered competitive grant program that provides funding for community-based organizations and public agencies to provide career services, training services, youth services, related assistance services and housing assistance to eligible migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents. [Grant no. FOA-ETA-20-08](#). To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20200414-0>. **Deadline: May 14.**

DOL Selects Five Organizations To Increase Employment for People with Disabilities. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) has selected five National Provider Organizations (NPOs) to participate in its National Expansion of Employment Opportunities Network (NEON) initiative to increase competitive integrated employment for people with disabilities. Competitive integrated employment is work in typical community settings, where most employees do not have disabilities, and where the employer pays its employees directly at minimum or prevailing wages – whichever is greater. NPOs are membership associations for service providers at the state and local level. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20200429-0>.

DOL Awards 12 Recipients for Improving Employment Outcomes for Youth Receiving Supplemental Security Income. The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL's) Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) announced funding awards under its Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Youth Solutions initiative, which aims to identify and evaluate strategies for improving employment outcomes for young adults from ages 14 to 24 who apply for or receive SSI. Under this initiative, ODEP solicited proposals from subject matter experts for innovative and evidence-based actions – including legislative, regulatory and policy changes – that can increase labor force participation and economic success among this population. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20200429>.

Headlines

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MedCerts Announces Nationally Registered Healthcare Apprenticeship Programs. MedCerts, a national provider of online Allied Healthcare and IT training solutions, announced that their official apprenticeship program has been registered with the United States Department of Labor Apprenticeship Office. It is now available nationally to MedCerts partners including American Job Centers, Adult Education Centers and healthcare organizations. As a part of the National Apprenticeship System, MedCerts has been designated as an Apprenticeship Intermediary and healthcare providers can utilize their approved standards to offer competency-based training programs that meet workforce needs. Apprenticeship programs in other industries have been used regularly by workforce-based agencies to help displaced workers enter into new careers. To obtain additional information, visit:

<https://www.medcerts.com/blog/medcerts-announces-nationally-registered-healthcare-apprenticeship-programs>.

Secretary DeVos Expands Second Chance Pell Experiment, More than Doubling Opportunities for Incarcerated Students to Gain Job Skills and Earn Postsecondary Credentials. U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced the U.S. Department of Education is inviting a new cohort of 67 schools to participate in its Second Chance Pell Experiment, creating more education opportunities for incarcerated students. This action expands on the Trump Administration's commitment to offer incarcerated individuals a second chance upon their re-entry to society, helping to reduce rates of recidivism. To obtain additional information, visit:

<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-expands-second-chance-pell-experiment-more-doubling-opportunities-incarcerated-students-gain-job-skills-and-earn-postsecondary-credentials>.

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos Authorizes New Funding Flexibilities to Support Continued Learning During COVID-19 National Emergency. U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced a new streamlined process for providing states funding flexibilities to best meet the needs of students and educators during the COVID-19 national emergency. The new flexibilities, authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, allow schools to repurpose existing K-12 education funds for technology infrastructure and teacher training on distance learning, among other flexibilities to move resources to areas of highest need during the national emergency. To obtain additional information, visit:

<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-education-betsy-devos-authorizes-new-funding-flexibilities-support-continued-learning-during-covid-19-national-emergency>.

Headlines

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Secretary DeVos Launches New Grant Competition to Spark Student-Centered, Agile Learning Opportunities to Support Recovery from National Emergency. U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced more than \$300 million in discretionary grant funds will be available for states to use to create adaptable, innovative learning opportunities for K-12 and postsecondary learners in response to the COVID-19 national emergency. The grants will be funded through the Education Stabilization Fund (ESF), authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, signed into law by President Donald J. Trump. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-launches-new-grant-competition-spark-student-centered-agile-learning-opportunities-support-recovery-national-emergency>.

FCC and Department of Education Promote Remote Education So Students Can Continue Learning. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Department of Education today announced efforts to promote the use of \$16 billion in funding from the recently enacted Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act's [Education Stabilization Fund](#) for remote learning. The agencies will work with governors, states, and local school districts as they leverage funding to best help students learning from home during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. To obtain additional information, visit: <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-and-us-department-education-promote-remote-education>.

New Collaboration Will Support Credential Transparency across the Midwest. Credential Engine and the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), announced a new partnership to support and accelerate credential transparency across the twelve Midwest states in the Compact: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. This work will continue to build on and expand efforts to improve the vital credential and competency data connections that tie education, jobs, and the economy together. To obtain additional information, visit: <https://www.mhec.org/news/new-collaboration-will-support-credential-transparency-across-midwest>.

Success Story

Connecticut Department of Labor

One Synergy High School student, Tuaquan, entered Synergy to obtain the credits necessary to complete high school. He enrolled in the pre-apprenticeship program in fall 2018 and was placed in a 72-hour, on-the-job training experience at a manufacturer in New Britain. He also completed 72 hours of Tooling U-SME on-line manufacturing curriculum and was awarded a pre-apprenticeship certificate from CTDOL's Office of Apprenticeship Training. Tuaquan was coached in all aspects of job preparation, completed each phase of the CCAT training process, and participated in the seven-week manufacturing training class at Asnuntuck Community College. Upon graduation from Synergy High School in January 2019, Tuaquan was hired for a machinist position through the assistance of a recruitment and assessment process of the partnership.

Interested in sharing a new practice or innovative approach that you're trying in your area?

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is interested in sharing strategies from across the country to promote peer learning and replication. If you would like to be considered for featuring in an upcoming newsletter, please email your organization, program name and brief description of the practice or approach to the ETA Division of Youth Services at: youth.services@dol.gov.

Funding & Other Opportunities

DOL Invites Applications for its WORC Program. The Employment and Training Administration within the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is accepting applications for its Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities (WORC) program. This program is designed to demonstrate the alignment of regionally driven, comprehensive approaches to addressing economic distress and the necessary workforce development activities to ensure a workforce capable of succeeding in current and future job opportunities. To obtain additional information, see Grant Number [FOA-ETA-20-04](#). **Deadline: June 29.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Department of Education Invites Applications for its EIR Program. The U.S. Department of Education is accepting applications for its Education Innovation and Research (EIR) Program. The EIR program is designed to generate and validate solutions to persistent education challenges and to support the expansion of those solutions to serve substantially larger numbers of students. Eligible applicants include: (1) A local educational agency (LEA); (2) A State educational agency (SEA); (3) The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE); (4) A consortium of SEAs or LEAs; (5) A nonprofit organization; and (6) An SEA, an LEA, a consortium described in (4), or the Bureau of Indian Education, in partnership with— (1) A nonprofit organization; (2) A business; (3) An educational service agency; or (4) An institution of higher education. [read more...](#)

Deadline June 15.

HHS Announces Funding Availability Notice for Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education Program. The Office of Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration for Children and Families is accepting applications for its Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education (HTYPE) Program. The goal of the HTYPE Demonstration Program is to fund local educational agencies (LEA) to develop and implement programs to prevent human trafficking victimization through the provision of skills-based human trafficking training and education for school staff and students as specified in the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018. To obtain additional information, see Grant Number: [HHS-2020-ACF-IOAS-OTIP-TV-1816](#). **Deadline: June 31.**

Sand Hill Foundation Invites Proposals for Improving Systems for Youth Mental Health. The Sand Hill Foundation is accepting proposals for its Improving Systems for Youth Mental Health initiative. The initiative seeks to build stronger systems of care for young people (ages 11 to 24) San Mateo and northern Santa Clara counties. Grant awards will range from \$50,000 to \$200,000 a year, and the foundation will consider requests for up to two years of funding, with the option to reapply for two subsequent years. [read more...](#) **Deadline: May 13.**

Ashoka Changemakers Invites Applications for STEM for Changemaking Challenge. Ashoka Changemakers is accepting applications for its STEM for Changemaking Challenge program. The program is designed for Changemakers ages 14-18 in the USA working on issues of sustainability. Twenty-five projects will each receive \$1,000 seed funding and an all-expenses-paid trip to the Changemaker Summit. [read more...](#) **Deadline: May 14.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Imaginable Futures Invites Applications for its Rise Prize Competition. Imaginable Futures and Lumina Foundation are accepting applications for its Rise Prize Competition. The competition is designed to increase the number of innovative solutions driving postsecondary success for student-parents. Impact-driven changemakers: companies, programs, and organizations of any type or stage in the US working on solutions directly supporting student parent postsecondary success are eligible to apply. [read more...](#) **Deadline: May 17.**

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Invites Applications for Youth Literacy Grant Program. The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is accepting applications for its Youth Literacy Grant Program. The program supports the implementation or expansion of new or existing literacy programs; the purchase of new technology or equipment to support literacy initiatives; and/or the purchase of books, materials, or software for literacy programs. Awardees will receive grants of up to \$4,000. [read more...](#) **Deadline: May 21.**

Juneau Community Foundation Invites Applications for Douglas-Dornan Foundation Fund. The Juneau Community Foundation is accepting applications for its Douglas-Dornan Foundation Fund. The fund supports projects dedicated to enhancing the health, education, and welfare of southeast Alaska residents. Through the program, grants will be awarded to organizations working in the areas of children and youth, the elderly, and/or special needs groups in support of services, equipment, activities, and/or training. Grants awards will range between \$200 and \$4,000. [read more...](#) **Deadline: June 1.**

Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation Invites Applications for its New ERA Women Writers Program. The Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation is accepting applications for its New ERA Women Writers Program. The program supports programs that will provide women and girls with the knowledge and skills to express oneself through the art of writing and to encourage higher levels of training designed to assist women in delivering clear and persuasive arguments for change and equality. Applications must be submitted by a registered 501(c)(3) organization and be for a program that takes place in Florida or New York. [read more...](#) **Deadline: Rolling.**

Resources

Labor Market Outcomes for High School Career and Technical Education Participants: 2016.

This new [Data Point](#) released by the National Center for Education Statistics examines how the early labor market outcomes of public high school graduates vary by the number of career and technical education (CTE) credits earned during high school. The report compares outcome among graduates who were not enrolled in postsecondary credential programs 3 years after high school graduation (in 2016).

Current Population Survey. The U.S. Census Bureau released new tables from the 2019 [Current Population Survey](#) Annual Social and Economic Supplement. These tables provide information on marital status, educational attainment, employment status, occupation, earnings, and other social and economic statistics by [age and sex](#) and [Hispanic origin](#), and for the [Asian alone](#), [Asian alone-or-in-combination](#), [black alone](#), [black alone-or-in-combination](#), [older](#) and [foreign-born](#) populations. The Current Population Survey is one of the oldest, largest and most well-recognized surveys in the United States. In addition to being the primary source of monthly labor force statistics, it is also used to collect data for a variety of other studies that keep the nation informed of the economic and social well-being of its people.

Courses Taken, Credits Earned, and Time to Degree: A First Look at the Postsecondary Transcripts of 2011–12 Beginning Postsecondary Students. This [report](#) released by the National Center for Education Statistics examines the 6-year coursetaking experiences, postsecondary attainment, and time to degree of U.S. undergraduates who began their postsecondary education for the first time in the 2011–12 academic year. The report also uses data collected through the Postsecondary Education Transcript Study for the 2011–12 cohort of the Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study.

College Enrollment and Work Activity of Recent High School and College Graduates —2019.

This [news release](#) by the Bureau of Labor Statistics discusses how information on school enrollment and employment status is collected monthly in the Current Population Survey (CPS), a nationwide survey of about 60,000 households that provides information on employment and unemployment. Each October, a supplement to the CPS gathers more detailed information about recent degree recipients and school enrollment. In addition to data on recent high school graduates ages 16 to 24, this news release presents information on recent degree recipients ages 20 to 29.

Resources

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The 411 on Disability Disclosure: A Workbook for Youth with Disabilities. This [workbook](#) developed by the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) and the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth, helps youth make informed decisions about whether to disclose their disabilities. It also provides guidance on understanding how these decisions can affect their educational opportunities, employment pursuits, and social relationships.

Getting to Equal: The Disability Inclusion Advantage. This [publication](#) released by Research from Accenture, in partnership with Disability:IN and the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), reveals that companies that embrace best practices for employing and supporting more persons with disabilities in their workforce have outperformed their peers.

Insights Report, From Insights to Action Redefining State Efforts to Support Social and Emotional Learning. This [publication](#) released by CASEL highlights and examines the work states are conducting to advance bold and strategic efforts that lay important groundwork for implementing systemic, equity-focused, evidence-based Social and emotional learning.

Helping High School Seniors to Transition to Two- or Four-Year College or Certificate Program. This [guide](#) from the National College Attainment Network (NCAN) urges K-12 district and school leaders and personnel to take five steps to help their senior class transition to a 2- or 4-year college or certificate program after high school graduation. NCAN is releasing this resource as the coronavirus pandemic continues to strain systems and disrupt student learning and plans at all levels.

Free STEM and STEAM Resources for Schools during the COVID-19 Outbreak. This [article](#) released by THE Journal provides information about how Education technology companies and organizations have stepped forward to help educators bring STEM and STEAM experiences to students in virtual ways during the COVID-19 closures. A list (ten pages long) of free resources in the arts, coding/computer science/engineering, crafting/design/making, math, science and integrated STEM/STEAM will be updated regularly as announcements are made.

Resources

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Receiving IRS Economic Impact Payments. This website developed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation designed to encourage unbanked people to open a bank account without going into a bank branch, as they receive the economic impact payment. It includes a video and connection to lists of banks that allow online account opening, as well as some that allow people to open an account now and fund it later with the EI deposit. To view the website, visit: <https://www.fdic.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments/index.html>.

Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On May 6th the Employment and Training Administration to host a webinar entitled: **Disability and Employment eLearning Modules: A Tool to Support Organizational Learning.** The webinar will provide an overview of the WorkforceGPS Disability and Employment eLearning modules designed to support front line American Job Center (AJC) staff and managers provide effective services to individuals with disabilities and businesses. To register for this webinar, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2020/04/14/15/36/Disability-and-Employment-eLearning-Modules-A-Tool-to-Support-Organizational-Learning>.

On May 20th the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration will present a webinar entitled: **Disability and Employment eLearning Modules: A Tool to Support Organizational Learning.** The webinar will provide an overview of the WorkforceGPS Disability and Employment eLearning modules designed to help front line American Job Center staff and managers provide effective services to individuals with disabilities and businesses. To register for the webinar, visit:

<https://disability.workforcegps.org/sitecore/content/global/events/2020/04/14/15/36/Disability-and-Employment-eLearning-Modules-A-Tool-to-Support-Organizational-Learning>.

Past Webinars/Webcasts

On April 15, the National Skills Coalition hosted a podcast entitled: **Listen to Skilled America Podcast Episode 4: Re-Entering the Fray.** During the podcast, host Rachel Unruh talked to Chris Watler of the Center for Employment Opportunities in New York and Jeff Abramowitz of JEVS Human Services in Philadelphia, two people working in re-entry services, to find out how they're dealing with the increased demand and the challenges brought to bear by the pandemic. They also chatted with Darnell Manuel, a participant of JEVS Looking Forward Philadelphia program, about his experience and what support men and women like him need both now and beyond our current circumstances. Rachel dug deeper into the challenges facing individuals re-entering society - and the workforce - in an [accompanying Medium piece](#). To view the podcast, visit: <https://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/news/blog/listen-to-skilled-america-podcast-episode-4-re-entering-the-fray?emci=7ea7150b-ed7f-ea11-a94c-00155d03b1e8&emdi=7d8ad45c-f37f-ea11-a94c-00155d03b1e8&ceid=2682826>.

Upcoming Events

June 1-26. Coalition for Community Schools [Rise Up for Equity](#) Virtual Summit.

June 8-12. Virtual Event. [JFF Horizon 2020](#) Virtual Event.



To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Youth Resource Connections Newsletter, visit: http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services and click the "Subscribe to E-mail Updates" button.

We welcome your input.

Please let us know how these newsletters might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments, contact the Employment and Training Administration's Division of Youth Services at **(202) 693-3030** or e-mail: youth.services@dol.gov.

The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non-endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the newsletter.