

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

DOL Launches Yearlong Celebration of Americans with Disabilities Act's 30th Anniversary. The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL's) Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) has announced plans for a yearlong celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Centered around the theme of "Increasing Access and Opportunity," commemoration activities will include events, speeches and new compliance assistance resources. The ADA's anniversary will serve as a key component of the National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) observance in October. To learn more about the department's ADA celebration, visit [dol.gov/odep/topics/ADA.htm](https://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/ADA.htm). To learn more about its disability-related policy work, visit [dol.gov/odep](https://www.dol.gov/odep). To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20200106>.

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

(continued)

DOL Seeks Comments on its Youthful Offender Grants Management Information System. The Employment and Training Administration within the Department of Labor (DOL) has published a request in the January 28 FEDERAL REGISTER. This data collection request is to permit DOL to continue a management information system for these various sets of grantees. This request also continues the reporting and recordkeeping system for a minimum level of information collection that is necessary to comply with Equal Opportunity requirements, to hold Youthful Offender grantees appropriately accountable for the Federal funds they receive, including performance measures, and to allow DOL to fulfill its oversight and management responsibilities. **Comments due: February 27.**

DOL Seeks Comment on New Information Collection – Apprenticeship Evidence-Building Portfolio. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Chief Evaluation Office in the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) has published a request in the [December 19 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The request intends to design and conduct evaluations of DOL-funded apprenticeship initiatives through the Apprenticeship Evidence-Building Portfolio. The portfolio of initiatives includes the Scaling Apprenticeship Through Sector-Based Strategies grants, Closing the Skills Gap grants, Transitioning Service Member Apprenticeship demonstration, and other DOL investments. The goal of this five-year study is to build evidence on apprenticeship models, practices, and partnership strategies in high-growth occupations and industries. **Comments due: February 18.**

BLS Seeks Comments on Proposed Revisions to the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has published a request in the [December 27 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) to solicit comments concerning the proposed revision of a currently approved collection “National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY) 1979.” One of the goals of the Department of Labor (DOL) is to produce and disseminate timely, accurate, and relevant information about the U.S. labor force. The BLS contributes to this goal by gathering information about the labor force and labor market and disseminating it to policymakers and the public so that participants in those markets can make more informed, and thus more efficient, choices. Research based on the NLSY79 contributes to the formation of national policy in the areas of education, training, employment programs, school-to-work transitions, and preparations for retirement. In addition to the reports that the BLS produces based on data from the NLSY79, members of the academic community publish articles and reports based on NLSY79 data for the DOL and other funding agencies. To date, more than 2,700 articles examining NLSY79 data have been published in scholarly journals. The survey design provides data gathered from the same respondents over time to form the only data set that contains this type of information for this important population group. **Comments due: February 25.**

Headlines

(continued)

DOL Seeks Innovative Ideas to Improve Employment Outcomes for Youth Receiving Supplemental Security Income. The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL's) Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) announced a new competitive initiative to identify and evaluate potential solutions to improve employment outcomes for young adults ages 14 to 24 who apply for or receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Through the initiative, ODEP is soliciting 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. Mathematica Policy Research will administer the initiative through a \$1.075 million contract with ODEP. For more information about the SSI Youth Solutions project, including eligibility criteria and instructions on how to apply, visit [SSIYouthSolutions.org](https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20200115). To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20200115>. **Deadline: February 27.**

HUD Seeks Comments on Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program. The Office of Community Planning and Development within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has published a request in the [January 28 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The information to be collected will be used to rate applications, to determine eligibility for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program and establish grant amounts. Applicants, which must be state or local governments, or nonprofit organizations will respond to narrative prompts to demonstrate their experience and expertise in providing housing and services to youth experiencing homelessness and to describe their intended program design, that will address the needs for housing and services that will result in housing placement and sufficient income to ensure housing is maintained once assistance discontinues. **Comments due: March 30.**

Department of Education Announces Deadline Dates for Submission of Campus-Based Programs. The Federal Student Aid, Department of Education has published a request in the [January 3 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) announcing the 2020-21 award year deadline dates for the submission of requests and documents from postsecondary institutions for the Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins Loan) Program, Federal Work-Study (FWS), and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) programs. The FWS program encourages the part-time employment of needy undergraduate and graduate students to help pay for their education and to involve the students in community service activities. The FSEOG program encourages institutions to provide grants to exceptionally needy undergraduate students to help pay for their education. **Deadlines: Dates for each program are specified in the chart in the deadline dates section of the notice.**

Headlines

(continued)

Postsecondary Success: National Governors Association Publishes Paper on Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Programs. This [topic paper](#) published by the National Governors Association details how dual and concurrent enrollment programs can help states overcome workforce readiness and postsecondary access and completion challenges and how governors can strengthen these programs by using their bully pulpit, agenda setting authority and budgetary authority to do so. It concludes with a number of examples of how governors are acting to strengthen equity and access to these programs. It also includes a number of resources for interested policy makers.

State Comparison: State Financial Aid Barriers for Students Impacted by the Justice System. This [Policy Outline](#) released by the Education Commission of the States provides an overview of state financial aid access for students enrolled in prison postsecondary education programs or students with prior criminal convictions who are enrolled in postsecondary education outside of prison.

National Governors Association Releases White Paper that Highlights Gubernatorial Initiatives on Youth Apprenticeship. Governors are taking steps to promote and expand youth apprenticeship opportunities in their states, recognizing the increasing importance of postsecondary or industry-recognized credentials to help high school graduates succeed in their careers, according to a new white paper from the National Governors Association (NGA). The [white paper](#) highlights examples from **Colorado, Kentucky, Maryland** and **North Carolina** of governors leveraging youth apprenticeship to connect more young people to career paths at an earlier age while filling unmet talent needs for growing businesses. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.nga.org/news/press-releases/nga-white-paper-highlights-gubernatorial-initiatives-on-youth-apprenticeship/>.

Success Story

ETA WIOA Youth Program Technical Assistance Resources

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Releases New Technical Assistance Resources!

WIOA Youth Program: A Training Tool for Workforce Board Members. The webcast shares information to help workforce development boards and youth committee members understand the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) youth program. To view the tool, visit:

<https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2020/01/21/15/05/WIOA-Youth-Programs-A-Training-Tool-for-Workforce-Board-Members>.

Partnering with Conservation Corps for Out-of-School Youth and Young Adult Outcomes. This Webinar provided examples of how Workforce Development Boards and Conservation Corps are partnering in employment, training, education and placement programming for Opportunity Youth and young adults. To view the webinar, visit:

<https://youth.workforcegps.org/sitecore/content/global/events/2019/07/29/20/06/Partnering-with-Conservation-Corps-for-Out-of-School-Youth-and-Young-Adult-Outcomes>.

Monitoring for Fulfilling the Vision of WIOA Youth Program. This webcast is a brief overview of the WIOA Youth Supplement Core Monitoring Guide, a program specific guide for on-site monitoring of WIOA formula-funded youth program. The webcast walks through the Guide and highlights subject areas throughout the monitoring tool. The Youth Supplement Guide can be modified and used by federal, State, and local workforce. The purpose of the webcast was to familiarize States and local areas on the types of review questions that indicate compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements and promising practices. By understanding compliance requirements workforce providers can prepare themselves for a successful monitoring visit. To view the webcast, visit:

<https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/10/04/21/55/WEBCAST-Monitoring-for-Fulfilling-the-Vision-of-WIOA-Youth-Program>.

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

HHS Invites Applications for its Opioid-Impacted Family Support Program. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration is accepting applications for its Opioid-Impacted Family Support Program. The purpose of this program is to support training programs that enhance and expand paraprofessionals knowledge, skills and expertise, and to increase the number of peer support specialists and other behavioral health-related paraprofessionals who work on integrated, interprofessional teams in providing services to children whose parents are impacted by opioid use disorders and other substance use disorders, and their family members who are in guardianship roles. [read more...](#) **Deadline: April 13.**

Herb Block Foundation Invites Applications for Pathways Out of Poverty Program. The Herb Block Foundation is accepting applications for its Pathways Out of Poverty program. Through the program, grants of up to \$25,000 will be awarded to nonprofit organizations working to help young people and adults in need in the greater Washington, D.C. region gain a quality education. For projects serving youth, the foundation seeks proposals focused on improving student achievement and the healthy development of young people; projects may include in-school and community-based educational programs, afterschool activities, and mentoring programs. Programs designed to increase high school graduation rates are encouraged. For projects serving adults, the foundation seeks proposals focused on providing literacy education and General Education Development preparation, as well as vocational training and job placement. Eligible applicants must be a nonprofit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that is located in and/or provides services within the greater Washington, D.C. region (defined by the foundation as the District of Columbia; the counties of Arlington and Fairfax and the City of Alexandria in Virginia; and the counties of Montgomery and Prince George in Maryland). [read more...](#) **Deadline: February 6.**

Westchester Community Foundation Invites Applications for Grants Benefiting New Rochelle Youth. The Westchester Community Foundation is accepting applications for its RXR Building Community Fund. The fund will award grants to innovative and meaningful programs and facilities that address issues in the areas of youth enrichment; workforce development; economic development; parks, recreation, and wellness; environment and sustainability; and public safety. Tax-exempt organizations serving New Rochelle youth are eligible to apply. Awardees will receive grant of up to \$5,000. [read more...](#) **Deadline: February 14.**

James R. Thorpe Foundation Invites Applications for Minneapolis Youth Programs. The [James R. Thorpe Foundation](#) is accepting applications from applicants serving youth in the City of Minneapolis and its western suburbs working to create opportunities for middle school and high school age youth to achieve productive and independent lives. Eligible applicants must be tax exempt as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and have an operating budget of \$3 million or less. [read more...](#) **Deadline: February 14.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Invites Applications for its 2020 Summer Reading Grants. The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is accepting applications from organizations to support the creation or expansion of summer reading programs. Local nonprofit organizations, schools and libraries are eligible to apply. [read more...](#) **Deadline: February 14.**

Youth Service America Invites Applications for its Youth Grants. Youth Service America and Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation will award grants up to \$1,200 to youth leaders ages 5-25 across the U.S. The grants are designed to turn their ideas into action and make an impact on the issue of childhood hunger on Global Youth Service Day – April 17-19, 2020 – and during summer 2020. [read more...](#) **Deadline: February 16.**

San Diego Foundation Invites Applications for its Science and Technology Grant Program. The [San Diego Foundation](#) is accepting Letters of Intent for its Science and Technology grant program. The program supports efforts to connect young adults to college and career opportunities and seeks to increase the number of underrepresented, high-potential students in the STEM career pipeline by providing opportunities for stipend-supported internships in advanced technical and scientific fields. Eligible applicants must be located and provide services in San Diego County and be designated as tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or have a fiscal sponsor. Awardees will receive grants ranging from between \$25,000 and \$75,000. [read more...](#) **Deadline: February 24.**

SPIE Invites Applications for Optics and Photonics Education Outreach. [SPIE](#), the international society for optics and photonics, is accepting applications for its Education Outreach Grants. The grants are designed to provide up to \$5,000 in support of optic- and photonics-related education outreach activities. Not-for-profit organizations such as universities, optics centers, science centers, primary and secondary schools, youth clubs, industry associations, and international optical societies are eligible to apply. [read more...](#) **Deadline: February 28.**

Blandin Foundation Invites Applications for Education Grants. The [Blandin Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its Education Grants program. The program is designed to provide need-based grants of up to \$4,500 to local students who will graduate, or have graduated, from one of these Itasca County (MN) schools: Grand Rapids, Bigfork, Deer River, Hill City, Greenway, Nashwauk-Keewatin, Remer, Blackduck, Northome, Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig, and Northern Lights Community School, as well as home-schooled students who would have attended any of these schools. Eligible students must be no more than 25 years old as of September 1, 2020, and be registered as a full-time student (12 credits per semester) at any accredited school in the United States. This can include trade schools, certificate programs, community, technical and tribal colleges, as well as four-year colleges and universities. (Graduate and doctoral students are not eligible.) Students also must make satisfactory academic progress toward their degree program, meaning they must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA or higher. [read more...](#) **Deadline: March 1.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

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DOJ Invites Applications for its Second Chance Act. The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention will provide funding from applicants to support states and units of local government to develop programs within detention or correctional facilities to respond to the needs of incarcerated parents who have children younger than age 18. This program supports activities that foster positive family engagement between incarcerated parents and their children within detention and correctional facilities, and implement programs and services that support the children of incarcerated parents to reduce the likelihood of antisocial behaviors and future involvement in the juvenile justice system. [read more...](#) **Deadline: March 10.**

YSA Invites Applications for its New Youth Service Zone Grants. Youth Service America (YSA) and the Corporation for National and Community Service are accepting applications for its Youth Service Zone Grants program. The program is designed to offer organizations and schools an opportunity to work collaboratively to increase the youth volunteer rates in their community. Collaboratives of three organizations leading efforts in communities, regions, or states with at least 100,000 residents are eligible to apply. Each zone will receive a grant of \$15,000 (\$5,000 to each of the 3 collaborative leaders) to support program activities. [read more...](#) **Deadline: March 27.**

Resources

Trends in High School Dropout and Completion Rates in the United States: 2019. This [report](#) released by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) presents statistics on high school dropout and completion rates at the state and national levels. It draws on a wide array of surveys and administrative datasets to present statistics on high school dropout and completion rates at the state and national levels. It also includes estimates of the percentage of students who drop out in a given 12-month period (event dropout rates), the percentage of young people in a specified age range who are high school dropouts (status dropout rates), and the percentage of young people in a specified age range who hold high school credentials (status completion rates). In addition, the report includes data on the percentage of students who graduate with a regular diploma within four years of starting ninth grade (adjusted cohort graduation rates). Lastly, the report updates a series of NCES reports on high school dropout and completion rates that began in 1988.

Resources

(continued)

How Does Student Loan Debt Affect College and Career Decision-Making? This [resource](#) released by the Rockefeller Institute of Government is the first part of a five-part series, which examines student interactions with guidance counselors and financial aid advisors as they prepare to take on and manage debt. The data suggest three factors complicate communication between students and counselors: the quality of the interaction, discrimination in dissemination of financial information, and the nature of the information being shared.

High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 (HSL:09): A First Look at the Postsecondary Transcripts and Student Financial Aid Records of Fall 2009 Ninth-Graders. This [report](#) released by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) report provides selected findings from the High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 (HSL:09) Postsecondary Education Transcript Study and Student Financial Aid Records Collection (PETS-SR). HSL:09 follows a nationally representative sample of students who were ninth-graders in fall 2009 from high school into postsecondary education and the workforce. The PETS-SR data collection was conducted between spring 2017 and fall 2018, approximately 4 years after high school graduation for most of the cohort. These data allow researchers to examine postsecondary coursetaking experiences and financial aid awards for the subset of fall 2009 ninth-graders who enrolled in postsecondary education after high school.

Past Webinars

On January 30, ND Prevention hosted a webinar entitled: **Supporting Younger Children Socially, Emotionally and Behaviorally.** The webinar took a closer look at leading indicators for misbehavior in school-aged children and discussed programmatic approaches and classroom strategies for supporting younger children that experience difficult adjustments to school settings. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: <https://ndprevention.neglected-delinquent.ed.gov/supporting-younger-children-socially-emotionally-and-behaviorally>.

Resources

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On January 17, the Alliance for Excellent Education hosted a webinar entitled: **Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline**. The webinar examined the role of educators and community leaders in preventing students from entering the school-to-prison pipeline. The panel of education and community leaders discussed how influences both in and out of school can contribute to students being put on a trajectory to incarceration, as well as the policies and practices that can steer students back toward success, whether in schools, juvenile justice education facilities, or re-integration programs. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: <https://all4ed.org/webinar-event/dismantling-the-school-to-prison-pipeline/>.

Upcoming Events

February 9-12. The CorpsNetwork [2020 National Conference](#).

April 16-18, 2020. New Orleans, LA. National Youth Leadership Council's [2020 National Service-Learning Conference](#).



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.