

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 Invites Applications for its Workforce Pathways for Youth Grants. The Employment and Training Administration within the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is accepting applications for its Workforce Pathways for Youth demonstration grants. The grants support national out-of-school time (OST) organizations that serve historically underserved and marginalized youth ages 14 to 21. These grants will place an emphasis on age-appropriate workforce readiness programming to expand job training and workforce pathways for youth, including soft skill development, career exploration, job readiness and certification, summer jobs, year-round job opportunities, and apprenticeships. Funding will also support partnerships between workforce boards and youth serving organizations. Grant number: [FOA-ETA-22-07](#). **Deadline: April 15.**

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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DOL Announces Availability of \$55M in Grants to Provide Pre-Release Training, Employment Services to Incarcerated People. Each year [state prisons release approximately 573,000 people](#) who need resources and support to re-enter and find stable employment in their communities successfully. Pre-release services have proven to help reduce the likelihood that formerly incarcerated people will return to prison and help these individuals fully reintegrate into their communities. To support this effort, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the availability of \$55 million in Pathway Home 3 Grants that seek to reduce barriers to employment by providing training and employment services to incarcerated individuals before their release from state correctional facilities, or county or local jails. Funds will also support continued comprehensive services post-release. To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220307>. Grant number: [FOA-ETA-22-04](#). **Deadline: April 19.**

DOL Announces \$85M in Available Funding to Support Underserved Youth, Young Adults in Communities Stricken with Violence, Poverty. While the causes are many and the remedies sometimes complex, the reality for young people from ages 10 to 24 in the nation's underserved communities is sadly simple: violence and poverty is stopping many from realizing their potential and blocking access to equity in education and employment. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced an \$85 million funding opportunity to support programs that prepare and empower justice-involved youth and young adults with skills training, employment services, educational support, and mentorship. The grants focus on youth and young adults impacted by community violence, particularly in areas of concentrated crime and poverty and in communities affected by significant social unrest. To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220308>. Grant number: [FOA-ETA-22-03](#). **Deadline: April 21.**

DOL Announces \$71M Available to Support Employment Readiness for American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians. [American Indians and Alaska Natives have traditionally faced higher unemployment rates, lower workforce participation and attained lower levels of education](#) – subjecting them to lower wages, fewer career opportunities and a continued cycle of unemployment and poverty. Expanding opportunities for these communities is the impetus behind \$71 million in funding availability the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced to provide training and employment assistance to American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians. The grants will support services to equip individuals in these communities with education, job search assistance and occupational skills training to improve their access to better jobs and increased wages. Administered by the department's [Employment and Training Administration](#), the funding will support approximately 167 grants ranging from \$20,000 to \$6 million, to deliver services under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act's [Indian and Native American programs](#). To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220322>. Grant number: [FOA-ETA-22-05](#). **Deadline: May 6.**

Headlines

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DOL Announces \$45M Grant Funding Availability to Help Close Equity Gaps, Expand Access to Training Needed for Good-Paying Jobs. The pandemic worsened disparities in economic outcomes across racial, ethnic and gender lines. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is announcing a \$45 million funding availability to help people in marginalized and underrepresented populations overcome barriers to access career and technical education programs that can help connect them with good-paying jobs. Administered by the department's Employment and Training Administration, these [Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants](#) will allow public and state institutions of higher education and community colleges – individually or collectively – improve their ability to address equity gaps and meet the skills development needs of employers and workers. The department will award grants of up to \$1.6 million for single institutions and up to \$5 million for consortiums, with up to \$5 million designated to fund at least one affinity consortium grant. To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220302>. Grant number: [FOA-ETA-22-02](#).
Deadline: June 2.

ETA Announces the Release of YouthBuild Video. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has released a video entitled: **Women of YouthBuild: How YouthBuild Uniquely Champions Women.** This video features women from U.S. Department of Labor YouthBuild programs — including staff, current participants, and alumnae — sharing how YouthBuild has impacted their career pathway journeys. YouthBuild uniquely champions women through career exploration, partnerships, support, mentoring, leadership, and education. To view the video, visit: <https://youthbuild.workforcegps.org/resources/2022/03/02/12/54/Women-of-YouthBuild-How-YouthBuild-Uniquely-Champions-Women>.

ETA Issues TEGL 8-21 – Providing Access to Voting through the American Job Center Network. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has published Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 8-21. The TEGL shares nonpartisan information and resources with states and local areas to make access to nonpartisan voting information and services more easily available through the public workforce system. To obtain additional information, visit: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=8838.

Headlines

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DOL Announces \$3.5M Award to Establish Hub to Improve Services, Outcomes for Jobseekers, Employers. On the heels of a strong jobs report, workers and jobseekers are taking advantage of opportunities to acquire new skills and explore better opportunities. Many of those workers will seek help from the public workforce system – a network of federal, state, and local government-funded programs that provide services to workers, jobseekers and employers that lead to economic growth and improved skills for workers. To continue its support of the public workforce system, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$3.5 million to [Safal Partners LLC](#) to establish a Workforce System Technical Assistance Collaborative that will facilitate peer learning and information sharing, and provide access to subject matter experts to help jobseekers obtain employment and employers hire and retain skilled workers. To obtain additional information and press release, visit:

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220310-0>.

BLS Seeks Comments on its National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) within the U.S. Department of Labor has published a request in the [March 1 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The BLS is soliciting comments concerning the proposed revision of the “National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY79) 1979.” The longitudinal focus of this survey requires information to be collected from the same individuals over many years in order to trace their education, training, work experience, fertility, income, and program participation. **Comments due: May 2.**

Governor Hogan Announces Elimination of Four-Year Degree Requirement for Thousands of State Jobs. Governor Larry Hogan announced the launch of a multi-pronged, first-in-the-nation workforce development initiative to formally eliminate the four-year college degree requirement from thousands of state jobs. Spearheaded by the Maryland Department of Labor and the Maryland Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the state will work with partners to recruit and market these roles to job seekers who are “Skilled Through Alternative Routes” (STARs). To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://governor.maryland.gov/2022/03/15/governor-hogan-announces-elimination-of-four-year-degree-requirement-for-thousands-of-state-jobs/>.

Headlines

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Workcred Awarded ECMC Foundation Grant to Support First-Generation, Low-Income and Adult Learners. Workcred has received a three-year grant from the [ECMC Foundation](#), as part of a partnership with [the League for Innovation in the Community College](#) (the League) and the [National Student Clearinghouse](#) (the Clearinghouse), to offer community colleges an affordable, scalable approach to align degrees with industry needs. The partnership—and its focus on Certification+Degree (C+D) Pathways—will support the development of alternative pathways within the workforce through embedding industry-recognized certifications into community college coursework. To obtain additional information, visit: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/alternative-pathways-to-the-workforce-workcred-awarded-ecmc-foundation-grant-to-support-first-generation-low-income-and-adult-learners-301481707.html>.

Eight Southern Cities to Create and Expand Reengagement Programs for Opportunity Youth. The National League of Cities (NLC) has chosen eight cities to participate in an 18-month technical assistance cohort to expand local efforts to reconnect youth and young adults with education and work. The Reengaging Opportunity Youth in the South in Education & Employment (ROYS) cohort includes Corpus Christi, TX; El Paso, TX; Houston, TX; Jackson, MS; Little Rock, AR; Louisville, KY; Rock Hill, SC; and St. Petersburg, FL. To view press release, visit: <https://www.nlc.org/post/2022/02/28/eight-southern-cities-to-create-and-expand-reengagement-programs-for-opportunity-youth/>.

Featured Resources

ALASKA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD WIOA YOUTH PROGRAM

WIOA Participant, Daniel, is an Alaska Native In-School youth enrolled into the WIOA Youth program by project operator Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association (YDFDA). Daniel lives in a high poverty area with one of the highest suicide rates amongst young people in the state of Alaska.

With support of the Alaska Workforce Investment Board WIOA Youth program, Daniel was able to graduate high school and receive vital exposure to job skills through work experience opportunities at the local fishery. The program replaced his social security card, state ID, and birth certificate after he lost them in a house fire. In addition, the program assisted Daniel with gaining acceptance to the Alaska Vocational Technical Center's Heating, and Plumbing program. He is currently working at a local grocery store while waiting for his post-secondary vocational training to begin in the fall.

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

ED Invites Applications for its Performance Partnership Pilots. The Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE), within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published a notice in the [March 10 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). This information collection request solicits applications for the Performance Partnership Pilots for Disconnected Youth, which provides States, localities, or tribal governments receiving funds under multiple Federal programs additional flexibility in using these funds to achieve significant improvement in outcomes for disconnected youth.
Applications due: May 9.

Funding & Other Opportunities *(continued)*

ACF Invites Applications for its Child Care Policy Research Partnership Grants. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced it is soliciting applications for Child Care Policy Research Partnership (CCPRP) Grants. These four-year cooperative agreements will support partnerships between Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Lead Agencies in states, territories, or tribes and institutions with demonstrated research capacity to develop rigorous investigations of childcare subsidy policies and practices. Grant number: [HHS-2022-ACF-OPRE-YE-0106](#). **Deadline: June 10.**

HUD Invites Applications for its Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is accepting applications for its Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program. The program is designed to support selected communities in the development and implementation of a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness and sharing that experience with and mobilizing communities around the country toward the same end. The population to be served by this demonstration program is youth experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied and pregnant or parenting youth. Grant number: [FR-6500-N-35](#). **Deadline: June 28.**

Resources

ETA Announces the Availability of New Resources Pages on Workforce GPS. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has created two new Resources technical assistance pages “Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)” and “Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI)” on Workforce GPS.

[Diversifying Talent: Historically Black Colleges and Universities \(HBCUs\)](#) – This page highlights how HBCUs offer all students, regardless of race, an opportunity to study and develop their skills and talents. The page also includes resources to use in interacting with and recruiting from HBCUs.

[Diversifying Talent: Minority-Serving Institutions](#) – This page highlights how Minority-serving Institutions (or MSIs) are defined by the as “institutions of higher education enrolling populations with significant percentages of undergraduate minority students, or that serve certain populations of minority students under various programs created by Congress.”

Resources

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Expanding Apprenticeships as a Career Pathway for Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities.

This [brief](#) released by the Center for Advancing Policy on Employment for Youth (CAPE-Youth) examines apprenticeships as a proven strategy for increasing labor force participation rates and lowering unemployment rates for youth and young adults with disabilities. It outlines how states can increase opportunities for Y&YADs and encourage economic growth by creating and fostering accessible and inclusive apprenticeships.

Purpose-Built to Advance Equity: Expanding Opportunities in Tech for Black Americans. This [report](#) released by [Jobs for the Future](#) (JFF) identifies 14 trailblazing organizations working to increase the number and proportion of Black Americans in high-earning technology careers. Developed with support from Comcast NBCUniversal, the report—is rooted in an analysis of more than 200 startups, educational institutions, nonprofits, and other programs focused on the development of Black talent in technology.

Advancing Inclusive Apprenticeships: A National Online Dialogue on Increasing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility in Apprenticeships. This [report](#) published by ePolicyWorks is a final summary of the National Online Dialogue on Increasing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility in Apprenticeships (DEIA)." The dialogue was hosted by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy, Office of Apprenticeship in the Employment and Training Administration, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Wage and Hour Division and Women's Bureau and provided input on how to promote inclusive apprenticeship programs under DOL's commitment to DEIA in the American workforce. The summary report includes the dialogue's key takeaways, themes and resources that will support DOL's efforts to improve access to work for diverse and underrepresented career seekers including people with disabilities, women, people of color, veterans, and people from the LGBTQIA+ community, as well as career seekers whose backgrounds may intersect multiple diverse groups.

Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On April 12th, the National Youth Employment Coalition will host hosting **"Ask Away!,"** a monthly Q&A session, with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Division of Youth Services (DYS). The DYS team will be there to answer any questions you might have on policy, performance metrics, eligibility, waivers, and more! To register for the event, visit: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvcuqqpzkpHdZ133hF1noluKnMffJN0NNd>.

Resources

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On April 19th the LEAD Center will host a webinar entitled: **The Racial Wealth Gap: Financial and Other Resources for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)**. In this webinar, speakers from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the U.S. Department of Labor will spotlight the racial wealth gap and highlight resources for those who have been historically marginalized. This webinar will be beneficial for HBCU presidents, provosts, parents, policymakers, administrators, financial educators, practitioners, counselors, disability liaisons, researchers, students, and related stakeholders interested in sharing information and best practices to advance their work for all Americans, including youth and young adults with disabilities. To register for the webinar, visit: <https://www.addevent.com/event/lw12588264>.

On May 25th, the Employment and Training Administration will host a webinar entitled: **Approaches to Supporting Youth in Mental Health and Wellness**. The aim of this webinar is to offer tips about navigating mental health systems and resources, engage attendees in thoughtful discussions regarding mental health in their communities, and provide strategies and techniques for self-care and self-awareness. Also, a YouthBuild alumna will participate in the webinar, sharing her lived experience in this area and strategies to connect with participants and graduates. To register for the webinar, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/03/16/15/56/Approaches-to-Supporting-Youth-in-Mental-Health-and-Wellness>.

Past Webinars/Webcasts

The National Employment First Community of Practice hosted a webinar entitled: **Secondary Benefits of Competitive Integrated Employment**. During the webinar, researchers Dr. Paul Wehman and Dr. Katherine Inge discussed the impact of competitive integrated employment on economic, psychological, and physical health outcomes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This research covers the additional benefits and implications for participants and the communities engaging in CIE. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/DNqXPPOCq82Y7dhsSkLmMbHmGY21Ou8DaoO3075isZ8KSgZtZUg60hjsugZTqtE1qD1kNrd-qcwpYH.p7_M2GD5-rB9yUdZ?startTime=1645646282000&xzm_rtaid=EnKhuEM-S1eZ2rjPcab8iQ.1646744440098.2ff684d034b5270eaa69191d13f5b8f7&xzm_rtaid=261.

The State Exchange on Employment & Disability and the Council of State Governments hosted a webinar entitled: **The Future of Apprenticeship: Inclusion, Expansion, and the Post-Pandemic World of Work**. The webinar highlighted the efforts of Colorado, New Jersey, and Ohio to ensure that apprenticeships expand into new fields and offer greater inclusion for people with disabilities. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZpQSpW7HHI>.

Upcoming Events

April 2022. National Reentry Resource Center [Second Chance Month](#).

April 4-6. [The Corps Network's 2022 National Conference](#).

April 15. [National Youth Employment Coalition's Workshop: Identifying and Addressing Youth's Mental Health Needs](#).

April 20-22. Minneapolis, MN. [National Youth Leadership Conference's 33rd Annual National Service-Learning Conference](#).

April 29 - May 1. Youth Service America's 34th Annual [Global Youth Service Day](#).

June 2-3. National Youth Employment Coalition's [2022 All Youth Connecting Forum](#).



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.