

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 Invites Applications for its YouthBuild Grant Program. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is accepting applications for its YouthBuild Grant program. The program model prepares participants for quality jobs in a variety of careers, including infrastructure, and contains wrap-around services such as mentoring, trauma-informed care, personal counseling, and employment – all key strategies for addressing community violence. YouthBuild applicants must include construction skills training and may include occupational skills training in other in-demand industries. This expansion into additional in-demand industries is the Construction Plus component, a priority in this grant competition. Grant number: [FOA-ETA-23-17](#). **Deadline: February 7, 2023.**

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)

Deputy Labor Secretary Su Stresses Registered Apprenticeships' Ability to Expand Access to Good Jobs for Women, Marginalized Workers. U.S. Deputy Secretary of Labor Julie Su visited the Hospitality Training Academy in Los Angeles on November 17, 2022, to see how its Registered Apprenticeship Programs are providing workers – especially women of color – the training and skills they need to secure good union jobs. The visit coincided with National Women in Apprenticeship Day. Deputy Secretary Su engaged with students in the academy's Line Cook Apprenticeship Program. The apprentices shared their experiences in the program, gained through classroom instruction and hands-on work in a fully equipped commercial kitchen. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20221118>.

Readout: First Lady, Secretaries Walsh, Cardona, Raimondo Kick Off National Apprenticeship Week in Chicago. First Lady Jill Biden joined Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh, Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona and Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo and met with students, apprentices, teachers and business leaders in the Chicago area to discuss innovative approaches to workforce training and kick off [National Apprenticeship Week 2022](#), November 14-20. To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20221114>.

DOL Announces Nationwide Effort to Prepare Students at Job Corps Centers for Registered Apprenticeship Programs. As the nation marks National Apprenticeship Week, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced an initiative to expand its pre-apprenticeship opportunities for Job Corps students and connect them to Registered Apprenticeship programs. The effort will allow Job Corps centers throughout the nation to emphasize pre-apprenticeship programs in green energy, healthcare, information technology and other high-growth industry sectors. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20221114-0>.

DOL Highlights the Benefits of Registered Apprenticeships as National Apprenticeship Week 2022 Launches. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the kick-off of more than 1,000 events and activities throughout the country as part of the eighth annual National Apprenticeship Week, November 14-20, 2022. [National Apprenticeship Week 2022](#) included roundtable and panel discussions, conferences, and career and trade fairs hosted by stakeholders in the proven “earn-as-you-learn” model, which connects individuals to paid work experience, classroom instruction and a nationally recognized credential, and helps employers develop their future workforce. To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20221114>.

Headlines

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DOL Seeks Comments for Post Enrollment Data Collection for Job Corps Participants. The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Employment and Training Administration published a request in the [November 7 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The 2014 Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) required the Office of Job Corps to collect and report specific post enrollment outcomes for eligible Job Corps participants beginning in Program Year (PY) 2016. The WIOA performance reporting requirements, which replaced those of the 1998 Workforce Investment Act (WIA), are designed to provide a common set of metrics to be reported by similar programs. To collect the necessary information to meet the new WIOA reporting requirements, the Office of Job Corps revised its post enrollment data collection system (PEDC) in 2019, which primarily collects data through survey instrument. **Comments due by December 7.**

OEDP Posts Blog: Advancing Disability Inclusion All Year Round. The Office of Disability Employment Policy within the U.S. Department of Labor released a blog which was posted as National Disability Employment Awareness Month concluded, drew attention to the advantages of employing workers with disabilities, provided ideas on how to foster a disability-friendly workplace and encouraged employers to make advancing disability inclusion a year-round commitment. To view the full blog, visit: <https://blog.dol.gov/2022/10/28/advancing-disability-inclusion-all-year-round>.

U.S. Department of Education Launches New Initiative to Support Career-Connected Learning and Increase Job Pathways for Young Americans. The U.S. Department of Education (Department) announced the launch of *Raise the Bar: Unlocking Career Success*, a new Biden-Harris Administration initiative supported by the Departments of Commerce and Labor to increase and expand access to high-quality training programs to help young Americans pursue jobs in today's in-demand fields and be prepared for careers of the future. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-launches-new-initiative-support-career-connected-learning-and-increase-job-pathways-young-americans>.

ED Announces FAFSA Simplification Act Changes for Implementation in the 2023–2024 Award Year. The Office of Postsecondary Education within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published an announcement in the [November 4 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). ED has announced the phased implementation of some of the elements of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Simplification Act for the 2023 – 2024 award year. This notice also addresses other rules that will take effect for the 2023-2024 award year as part of the FAFSA Simplification Act.

Headlines

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ED Seeks Comments on its Evaluation of Transition Supports for Youth with Disabilities. The Institute of Education Sciences within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published a request in the [November 8 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The purpose of this information collection is to look at the study which examines the effectiveness, implementation, and costs of two new strategies for supporting youth with disabilities and their families to prepare for a successful transition from high school to adult life. The study will also compare the intermediate and postschool outcomes for approximately 3,000 students who have an individualized education program and are approximately two years from high school graduation. Participating students in up to 100 schools and 16 districts will be randomly assigned to receive one of the study's strategies or continue with the regular transition supports they receive from their school. **Comments due by January 9, 2023.**

HHS Seeks Comments on Evaluation of LifeSet. The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation; Administration for Children and Families within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services published a request in the [November 16 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The purpose of this information collection to assess the implementation of LifeSet, a program that provides services and supports to young adults ages 17 to 21 with previous child welfare involvement. The program aims to support young adults in their transition from foster care to independent living in the areas of education, employment and earnings, housing and economic well-being, social support, well-being, health and safety, and criminal involvement. It focuses on helping young adults identify and achieve their goals while developing the skills necessary for independent living. **Comments due by December 16.**

Governor Cooper Announces \$8.45 million in Workforce Development Grants to Local Communities. The North Carolina Department of Commerce has awarded 20 special grants to 11 local workforce development boards, totaling \$8.45 million, Governor Roy Cooper announced. Boards will use the grants to help jobseekers and small businesses with training and other services in response to a tight labor market. These include programs for individuals who are in the reentry process and individuals with or at risk of substance abuse. Federal American Rescue Plan Act funds are supporting this initiative. To view the press release, visit: <https://governor.nc.gov/news/press-releases/2022/11/02/governor-cooper-announces-845-million-workforce-development-grants-local-communities>.

Headlines

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Mental Illness is Delaying Young Adults from Entering the Workforce. A New Program Can Help.

The Career EXCELeRate Wisconsin Project is a collaboration of Rawhide, Goodwill, and Fox Valley Technical College. With a \$6 million Wisconsin Workforce Innovation Grant, the project plans to give those struggling with mental health concerns the wraparound resources they need to start careers in a number of in-demand fields — including childcare, an industry that has been hemorrhaging teaching aides and grappling with extensive wait lists long before the pandemic. The program will also offer pathways of employment to other industries in need, including nursing, construction, manufacturing, truck driving and maintenance. To obtain additional information, visit:

<https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/education/2022/11/02/excelerate-wisconsin-project-addresses-mental-health-job-training/69588093007/>.

CISA's K-12 Cyber Education Program Goes Nationwide. [CYBER.ORG](https://cyber.org) – a workforce development organization funded by [Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's](#) (CISA) [Cybersecurity Education and Training Assistance Program](#) (CETAP) grant and an initiative of the Cyber Innovation Center (CIC) – alongside Governor John Bel Edwards of Louisiana and Jen Easterly, Director of CISA, announced that the CYBER.ORG Range, a no-cost, safe, virtual environment for K-12 students to learn cybersecurity skills, will be expanded to students nationwide. Through the CYBER.ORG Range and CYBER.ORG's other free resources, K-12 teachers are empowered to teach cybersecurity in the classroom. Educators can use the Range to help students practice deploying and discovering cyber-attacks in a safe and controlled, virtual environment. All labs in the CYBER.ORG Cybersecurity course can be completed on the CYBER.ORG Range. To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit: <https://cyber.org/news/cyberorg-range-announced>.

National Student Clearinghouse Partners with OneTen to Expand Sustainable Career Development Opportunities for Black Talent Without College Degrees. The National Student Clearinghouse announced that it has teamed up with [OneTen](#), a coalition designed to close the opportunity gap for Black talent in the United States by working with America's leading executives, companies and talent developers to hire and advance one million Black Americans without four-year degrees into family-sustaining roles. To obtain additional information and view the press release, visit:

<https://www.studentclearinghouse.org/blog/clearinghouse-partners-with-oneten-to-expand-sustainable-career-development-opportunities-for-black-talent-without-college-degrees/>.

Featured Programs

DelawareFutures

Gael joined Delaware Futures his 8th grade summer! Gael is currently a senior at William Penn High School in Delaware. Gael's barriers were identified as a language barrier, with Spanish being his primary language spoken in his home. Delaware Futures was able to provide him with Toast Masters to enhance his public speaking skills while also making him comfortable speaking a secondary language. Gael utilizes the services that Delaware Futures offer such as tutoring, SAT prep sessions, and internship opportunities. Gael's participation and commitment in weekly tutoring sessions increased his GPA to a 4.0! The SAT prep that Delaware Futures offered helped Gael with his confidence, exposure, and to increase his score. Gael has a career interest in computer science, and Delaware Futures was able to provide him with an internship with A.I Whoo and the University of Delaware Sharp Lab. Gael was able to gain more knowledge in coding, programming, and functions at both internships while also maintaining his involvement in other extracurricular activities. Gael's leadership is outstanding, he is always willing to help and support his peers, as well as encourages them to be involved and try new things in the program. Delaware Futures is so proud of Gael's achievements!

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

American Mathematical Society Invites Applications for its Young Scholars Program.

The [American Mathematical Society](#) is accepting applications for its Young Scholars Program. Awardees will receive grants up to \$15,000 in support of summer mathematics programs which can focus on problem-solving or mathematical research in any area of mathematics. Eligible programs must have existed for at least one year, preferably longer. [read more...](#) **Deadline: December 8.**

RPM Foundation Invites Applications for its Automotive Restoration and Preservation Programs.

The [RPM Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its educational programs. Grants averaging about \$10,000 will be awarded to organizations dedicated to instructing and training the next generation to restore and preserve vintage cars, motorcycles, and boats and provide them with a pathway to careers. The foundation's highest priorities include student apprenticeships, internships, and scholarships, and the foundation does not fund salaries. Eligible applicants must be tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. [read more...](#) **Deadline: December 9.**

Big Lots Foundation Invites Applications from Programs that Enrich Lives of Families, Children.

The [Big Lots Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its requests for organizations in support of healthcare, housing, hunger, and education programs, especially those serving women and children. Eligible applicants must be tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and be in communities where Big Lots operates stores or distribution centers (Columbus, Ohio; Tremont, Pennsylvania; Durant, Oklahoma; Montgomery, Alabama; Rancho Cucamonga, California), or has its corporate office (Columbus, Ohio). [read more...](#) **Deadline: January 1, 2023.**

Helen Diller Family Foundation Invites Applications for its the Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards.

The Helen Diller Family Foundation is accepting applications for its [Diller Teen Tikkun Olam Awards](#). The awards are designed to honor Jewish teens who demonstrate remarkable leadership and civic engagement through projects that embody the values of *tikkun olam* ("repairing the world"). Up to 15 recipients will be awarded \$36,000 each to further their project or for their education. Eligible candidates must be teenagers (13-19 years old) who self-identify as Jewish, live in the United States, are not compensated for their work, currently serving in a leadership role on a project or initiative aimed at repairing the world. Projects may have any focus, from raising money to hands-on interactions to larger systemic-change initiatives. Projects can have a local, national, or global focus benefiting the Jewish or general community. Applicants can create a new project or contribute to an established initiative if they demonstrate a significant leadership role in an existing organization or project. [read more...](#) **Deadline: January 5, 2023.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation Invites Applications for its Youth Grants. The Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation will provide grants of up to \$500 to youth leaders ages 5-25 across the U.S. The grants are designed to help to turn the youth leaders' ideas into action and make an impact on the issue of childhood hunger. [read more...](#) **Deadline: January 16, 2023.**

Schmidt Futures and the Rhodes Trust Invites Applications for its Rise Challenge Program. [Schmidt Futures](#) and [Rhodes Trust](#) are accepting applications for its Rise Challenge Program. The program is designed to find brilliant people ages 15 to 17 who need opportunity and supports them for life as they work to serve others. Awardees will receive a lifetime of benefits including scholarships, mentorship, access to career development opportunities, funding, and more as Global Winners work toward solving humanity's most pressing problems. [read more...](#) **Deadline: January 25, 2023.**

ED Invites Applications for its Mental Health Service Professional (MHSP) Demonstration Grant Program. The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) is accepting applications for its Safe & Supportive Schools: Mental Health Service Professional (MHSP) Demonstration Grant Program. The program is designed to increase the number and diversity of high-quality, trained providers available to address the shortages of mental health service professionals in schools served by high-need local educational agencies. Grant number: [ED-GRANTS-112822-001](#). **Deadline: January 27, 2023.**

Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative Invites Proposals for its Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative. The Harvard Graduate School of Education's Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative is accepting proposals for its 2023 Zaentz Early Education Innovation Challenge. The challenge seeks new ideas that have the potential to advance innovation, enhance equity, and drive transformative change in early education. The initiative seeks ideas and approaches that promote short-term or long-term positive outcomes at multiple levels of the early education system, including the home, classroom, programs, networks, and/or policy. [read more...](#) **Deadline: January 13, 2023.**

Lessons Learned in Workforce Innovation: How Six States Are Planning to Advance Digital Skills for Equitable Economic Participation. The [publication](#) released by National Governor's Association includes a framework for Governors and state policymakers to assess their state's needs and capacity for digital skill development as well as information on key elements of state action plans to boost digital skills access and attainment. To inform these plans, states may undertake a wide array of planning efforts, such as mapping digital skills assets, collecting data, and engaging stakeholders, to capture a comprehensive picture of the digital skills landscape.

Resources

College Academic Coaching Can Increase College Success and Later Earnings. This [article](#) released by W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, looks at the results of a college student coaching program that was rolled out at a large public university in California in 2009. The program targeted first-year students most at risk of dropping out—those placed on academic probation during their first semester at university. It was found that the coaching program significantly increased students' first year grade-point average by 16 percent of a standard deviation (about 0.1 GPA points on a 4.0-point scale) and lowered first year dropout rates by 8.6 percentage points, from approximately 26 to 18 percent. It was also found that these changes correspond to a higher likelihood of graduating from university.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Impact Report this [report](#) released by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing finds the CCBHC model helps clinics serve more people faster, and provide access to certain forms of treatment at vastly higher rates than non-CCBHCs. This report also follows a [recent announcement](#) from the Biden-Harris administration that CCBHCs will be expanded nationwide using funding authorized by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act – Additional Steps Needed to Help States Collect Complete Enrollment Information. This [report](#) released by the Government Accountability Office examines (1) what is known about DOL and Education efforts to collect required information on the Act's core program participation and performance outcomes, and (2) the extent to which DOL and Education have established performance targets and assessed core programs against them.

Credentials to Employment: The Last Mile. This [report](#) released by [Digital Credentials Consortium](#) attempts to map the space that exists between the promise of digital credentials that represent skills, competencies and abilities and their widespread adoption in employment-related use cases. It is based on a set of semi-structured interviews with leading experts and decision makers in North America and Europe, desk research and expert analysis. Learn more about REYAAS in this [fact sheet](#).

Union-Based Apprenticeships for Young People: Creating Good Jobs and Meeting Employers' Needs for Skills. In this [report](#) released by the Urban Institute exploratory research was conducted to better understand unions' approaches to training young people (ages 16 to 24) and their experiences learning a trade in Registered Apprenticeships.

Resources

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NGA Announces the Launch of its Infrastructure Workforce Resources Mapping Tool. This [Mapping Tool](#) released by the National Governors Association (NGA) presents several prospective pathways into critical infrastructure careers and identifies funding opportunities that can be tapped to support training for individuals to enter those careers. The Tool also lists several infrastructure-related careers and outlines scenarios based on an individual's current employment status, the type of education partner or training provider required, possible federal funding sources, and relevant state/territory agencies that administer those funding sources or serve as key partners in program development and delivery.

Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On December 12th, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) will host a webinar entitled: **Town Hall: Training Employment Guidance Letter 23-19, Change 1.** During the webinar ETA will discuss a recently released updated guidance to grant recipients of the U.S. Department of Labor workforce programs, including states, to use in developing procedures for ensuring the data submitted for performance reporting are valid and reliable. To register for the webinar, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/11/18/15/06/Town-Hall-Training-Employment-Guidance-Letter-23-19>.

On January 25, 2023, the Employment and Training Administration will host a webinar entitled: **NEW CareerOneStop User Accounts.** This webinar will go in-depth on the new user account functionality and demonstrate new How-to Guides that help customers find and use the best resources to reach their career and job goals. To register for the webinar, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/11/03/14/46/NEWCareerOneStopUserAccounts>.

Past Webinars/Webcasts

On November 15th, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **Yes, WIOA Can! Effectively Leveraging or "Braiding" Multiple Funding Sources with WIOA.** This webinar serves as technical assistance for workforce grantees to understand how to leverage or "braid" multiple funding sources to achieve improved outcomes for our customers. Webinar attendees learned how Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds can be leveraged or braided with other funding streams and how to properly track funds. The webinar also showcased examples of local areas that have leveraged "braided" funds. To view an archive of a webinar, visit: <https://nextlevelnow.workforcegps.org/events/2022/11/01/18/43/Yes-WIOA-Can-Effectively-Leveraging-or-Braiding-Multiple-Funding-Sources-with-WIOA>.

Resources

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On October 26, American Youth Policy Forum hosted a podcast on **Credible Messengers**. This podcast looked at how well-trained, resourced, supported, and paid credible messengers can serve young people navigating the youth legal system, child welfare system, K-12 schools, or college. The podcast unpacked the term “credible messenger,” to show individuals what a credible messenger is and isn’t. And through lived examples and exemplary research, presenters illustrated the many ways where credible messengers are already working or should be utilized to improve outcomes for young people, especially those marginalized by systemic inequities. To listen to the archive podcast, visit: <https://www.aypf.org/resource/aypf-podcast-on-credible-messengers/>.

Upcoming Events

December 15. National Youth Employment Coalition's [Employer Engagement to Support Youth Career Development](#).

April 2-5, 2023. Reno, Nevada. National Indian Child Welfare Association's [41st Annual Protecting Our Children Conference](#).

April 4-7. Indianapolis, IN. Join the National Youth Employment Coalition for the [2023 Annual Forum: Transforming Vision into Action](#) in Indianapolis April 4-7! The national conference brings together youth leaders, practitioners, policymakers, and stakeholders interested in advancing the lives of opportunity youth and young adults. Attendees will work together, across geographies and sectors, to empower each other to transform ideas. Register online or email julia.frohlich@nyec.org for any questions!

May 16-18, 2023. Washington, DC. Youth Economic Opportunities' (YEO's) [2023 Global Youth Economic Opportunities \(YEO\) Summit](#).



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.