

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 to Fuel Registered Apprenticeships' Growth with ApprenticeshipUSA Branding Effort, Public Conversations. On Aug. 16, 1937, the nation took a historic step toward formalizing standards for Registered Apprenticeships, including those related to their safety and health and to prevent many forms of discrimination toward workers in training. Coinciding with the 85th anniversary of the passage of the National Apprenticeship Act – or the “Fitzgerald Act” owing to its legislative champion, Rep. William J. Fitzgerald – the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced several initiatives designed to unite employers, workers, and other stakeholders in the ongoing effort to grow the nation's Registered Apprenticeship system. The department's Office of Apprenticeship has created the “ApprenticeshipUSA” brand to establish an identity and shared understanding of the national Registered Apprenticeship system with its stakeholders. These include apprentices, apprenticeship sponsors, educators, employers, industry associations, labor-management organizations, state apprenticeship agencies and training providers. To view the press release, visit:
<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220816>.

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 Awards \$50m in Additional Grants to Fund Registered Apprenticeship Hubs to Expand Apprenticeships. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$50 million in Apprenticeship Building America grant funding for Registered Apprenticeship hubs – organizations that help employers design, develop, and deliver programs – and support the establishment, scaling, and expansion of Registered Apprenticeship programs in new and fast-growing industries and occupations. The program advances the department's efforts to expand, diversify and modernize Registered Apprenticeship by increasing the number of programs and apprentices, diversifying the industries that use the "earn-as-you-learn" model for workforce development, and improving the access and performance of the programs in underrepresented and underserved communities. The department is awarding the grants to nine organizations in California, Illinois, Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Washington. To view the press release, visit:
<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20220824>.

DOL Seeks to Help State, Local Governments Expand Competitive Integrated Employment for People with Disabilities. A joint communication by nine agencies within the departments of Labor (DOL), Health and Human Services, Education and the Social Security Administration encourages state and local governments throughout the nation to blend, braid and sequence funding to maximize resources proactively and improve [Competitive Integrated Employment](#) (CIE) outcomes for youth and adults with disabilities. CIE ensures individuals with disabilities are paid competitive wages and work in a community setting where most workers do not have disabilities. The newly released information builds on the Biden-Harris administration's history of supporting efforts that lead to improved CIE outcomes and equity for individuals with significant disabilities. To obtain additional information, visit:
<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20220816>.

DOL Awards \$8m to Support Policy Development Center for Equal, Inclusive Employment of People with Disabilities. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$8 million to support a four-year cooperative agreement with the National Disability Institute to operate a policy development center focused on employment for people with disabilities. Administered by the department's Office of Disability Employment Policy, the cooperative agreement awards about \$2 million each year, with a total availability of approximately \$8 million during its 48-month term. Funded under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, the center will complement the work of ODEP's National Center on Leadership for the Employment and Economic Advancement of People with Disabilities. To view the press release, visit:
<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20220826>.

Headlines

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ePolicyWorks Seeks Comments on its Online Dialogue. The ePolicyWorks initiative is collecting feedback on its “Advancing the National Apprenticeship System” online dialogue. Through the dialogue, the department will seek to identify how to evolve and optimize the nation’s apprenticeship model to benefit everyone. Join the conversation to identify policies, practices, strategies, and approaches that will further the reach and availability of inclusive apprenticeships and address any barriers to their success. To access the dialogue, visit: <https://advancingapprenticeships.ideascale.com/a/index>. **Comments due: September 6.**

As American Families Prepare for Back-to-School, Biden-Harris Administration Strengthens Access to High-Quality, Comprehensive Health Care for Children. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, announced three key actions to strengthen and expand access to high-quality, comprehensive health care for children across the country. These actions are part of [HHS’ ongoing efforts](#) to support President Joe Biden’s call to address the nation’s mental health crisis, including its impact on children. HHS issued a new guidance document reminding states of their mandate to cover behavioral health services for children in Medicaid and urged states to leverage every resource to strengthen mental health care for children. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/08/18/as-american-families-prepare-for-back-to-school-biden-harris-administration-strengthens-access-high-quality-comprehensive-health-care-for-children.html>.

HHS Seeks Comments on the 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 (HHS) published a request in the [August 5 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The proposed information collection activities are part of the second phase of a study that intends to assess the impact and 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: 60 days of this publication.**

Headlines

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U.S. Department of Commerce Announces Winners of American Rescue Plan \$500 Million Good Jobs Challenge to Expand Employment Opportunities. U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced grant awards to 32 industry-led workforce training partnerships across the country as part of the \$500 million [Good Jobs Challenge](#) funded by President Biden's [American Rescue Plan](#). The Good Jobs Challenge is administered by the Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration and will enable communities across the country to invest in innovative approaches to workforce development that will secure job opportunities for more than 50,000 Americans. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2022/08/us-department-commerce-announces-winners-american-rescue-plan-500>.

AYPF Posts Blog: Access to Higher Education: Supports for Homeless and Foster Youth. The American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) released a blog which discusses the Good Jobs Challenge administered by the Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration. The Challenge will enable communities across the country to invest in innovative approaches to workforce development that will secure job opportunities for more than 50,000 Americans. To view the full blog, visit: <https://www.aypf.org/blog/access-to-higher-education-supports-for-homeless-and-foster-youth/>.

Governor Murphy, NJ CEO Council, & Social Finance Launch New Jersey Pay It Forward Program to Prepare Students for Good-Paying Jobs in Health Care, IT, and Clean Energy. Governor Phil Murphy, the New Jersey (NJ) CEO Council, and [Social Finance](#) announced the launch of the [New Jersey Pay It Forward Program](#)—a new and innovative workforce development program that furthers the Governor's ongoing commitment to helping residents obtain quality postsecondary education and training to advance their careers, as outlined in the [New Jersey Higher Education State Plan](#) and [Jobs NJ](#). The Pay It Forward Program, which is the first of its kind in the nation, will help build a robust and talented workforce while supporting economic growth in the state. Participants in the program will receive zero-interest, no-fee loans at no upfront cost, as well as non-repayable living stipends and wraparound supports, to allow them to affordably prepare for good-paying, career-track jobs in the health care, information technology (IT), and clean energy sectors. To obtain additional information, visit: <https://socialfinance.org/news/governor-murphy-nj-ceo-council-social-finance-launch-new-jersey-pay-it-forward-program-to-prepare-students-for-good-paying-jobs-in-health-care-it-and-clean-energy/>.

Headlines

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Governor Evers, DWD Announce Youth Apprenticeship Offerings, 14 New Occupational Pathways for Students.

Governor Tony Evers announced that Wisconsin high school juniors and seniors heading back to school this fall will have 14 new occupational pathways that local employers can support, thanks to ongoing modernization efforts by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD). Working in collaboration with school consortiums, employers, the Wisconsin Technical College System, and other partners, DWD has modernized the framework for a total of 75 Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program pathways to help industries like construction, health sciences, marketing, science and engineering, and transportation find and develop home-grown talent. To obtain additional information, visit:

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/press/2022/220829-youth-apprenticeship-pathways.htm>.

Featured Resources

Youth Mental Health Resource Guide

This resource guide compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor was designed to help workforce practitioners deliver on the WIOA youth program element of providing youth with comprehensive guidance and counseling.

This guide provides both educational tools for workforce practitioners to familiarize themselves with common mental health concerns affecting youth and easily accessible information and crisis contacts that may be shared with youth or posted in visible locations. Mental health is as integral to youth wellbeing as physical health and learning to recognize the signs that a youth might need more support and understanding the unique experiences and resilience of youth workers diagnosed with mental illness makes for a stronger workforce. This guide covers common screening tool assessments and methods of obtaining help. It also features research that may assist workforce practitioners in acquainting themselves with common topics in mental health dialogue including resources on Covid-19, trauma, social media use, eating disorders, and substance use.

To view the guide, visit: <https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2022/08/16/15/26/Youth-Mental-Health-Resource-Guide>.

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 for Disconnected Youth. The Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published a request in the [August 8 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). ED is accepting applications for its FY 2022 Performance Partnership Pilots for Disconnected Youth (P3) and offers opportunities for prospective applicants to obtain optional technical assistance from the Agencies prior to applying. The FY 2022 P3 authority enables pilot sites to blend FY 2022 Federal funds and obtain waivers of program requirements, including statutory, regulatory, and administrative requirements that are barriers to achieving improved outcomes for youth-serving programs included in the authority. Under P3, pilots can test innovative strategies to achieve significant improvements in educational, employment, and other key outcomes for disconnected youth using the flexibility provided by P3. **Deadline: October 7.**

National Center for START Services Institute on Disability/UCED University of New Hampshire invites Proposals for its MH-IDD Research Project. The National Center for START Services Institute on Disability/UCED University of New Hampshire is accepting proposals for its National Research Consortium (NRC) on Mental Health in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (MHIDD). The goal of this collaborative is to improve the mental health and well-being of individuals with IDD, their families, and communities; to foster collaboration among research institutions, practitioners, UCEDDS, providers, and people with lived experiences; to generate co-sponsorships and collaborative partnerships to fund innovative, startup projects; and to promote engagement with new researchers and trainees. Applicants must clearly articulate how the project meets the National Research Consortium's mission. Awardees will receive grants up to \$35,000. [read more...](#) **Deadline: September 15, 2022.**

HUD Announces \$2.8 Billion to Help People Experiencing Homelessness. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that it will provide \$2.8 billion in competitive funding to homeless services organizations across the country for supportive services and housing programs for people experiencing homelessness. The funding opportunity reflects the Biden-Harris Administration's continued commitment to equity and evidence-based solutions to address homelessness. It also reinforces the Administration's commitment to boost housing supply and lower costs by supporting local engagement to increase the supply of affordable housing. Grant number: [FR-6600-N-25](#). **Deadline: September 29.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Invites Applications for its Workforce Development Scholarship. The [U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation](#) in partnership with the Donohue Family Foundation and the [SkillPointe Foundation](#) is accepting applications for the Donohue Family SkillPointe Scholarship program. Through the program, 50 Donohue Family SkillPointe Scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded in 2022 and 2023. Scholarships are available to individuals of all backgrounds pursuing vocational training in construction, communications, energy, health care, manufacturing, public service, technology, and transportation. [read more...](#) **Deadline: September 30.**

YSA Invites Applications for its 50by250 Lead Organizer Grants. Youth Service America (YSA) in partnership with Allstate Foundation will award \$5,000 grants to recruit and support at least 50 local partners to participate in the 50% Youth Participation by America250 (50by250) Initiative. The initiative is designed to increase youth participation rates in volunteering and service, voting and civic engagement, and joining and leadership to 50% by America 250 on July 4, 2026. [read more...](#) **Deadline: September 30.**

NYLC Invites Applications for its Youth As Solutions Grants. The National Youth Leadership Council's (NYLC) Youth As Solutions (YAS) national framework encompasses professional development for adult K-12 educators in schools and nonprofits, youth leadership development for middle and high school students, and monthly support and resources-- including \$1000 grants-- for service-learning implementation during the school year. Leadership Teams of two youth leaders and one adult mentor work in issue-focused cohorts, addressing a need in their home community through service-learning. [read more...](#) **Deadline: Sept. 30**

Constellation Invites Applications for its E2 Energy to Educate Grants Program. Constellation is accepting applications for its E2 Energy to Educate grants program. The program awards grants to support hands-on student projects focusing on equity in energy, sustainability as a lifestyle, and a sustainable world. [read more...](#) **Deadline: October 1.**

ED Announces Funding Opportunity Under the Postsecondary Success Program. The Office of Postsecondary Education within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published a request in the [August 12 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). ED is accepting applications for its Postsecondary Success Program which is designed to promote postsecondary completion for students close to completion, whether for students currently enrolled in higher education, students who are no longer enrolled because of challenges they faced during the COVID-19 pandemic and close to completion, or both. Institutions may opt to supplement or expand evidence-based and data-driven activities to support retention and completion for both groups. This program aims to improve student outcomes, including retention, transfer, credit accumulation, and completion, by augmenting evidence-based activities that are already underway at eligible institutions of higher education. **Deadline: October 11.**

Funding & Other Opportunities *(continued)*

9/11 Day Invites Volunteers for the 9/11 National Day of Service. 9/11 Day is accepting volunteers to help inspire unity and millions of acts of kindness and service for 9/11 Day of Service. To find volunteer opportunities, visit: <https://911day.org/>.

AmeriCorps Invites Volunteers for 9/11 Day of Service. On 9/11 Day AmeriCorps will unite in compassion and honor, and work side by side to build more equitable and just communities. To find volunteer opportunities near you, planning resources for service projects, tips to mobilize your community, and promo tools, visit: <https://americorps.gov/911-day>.

Glenn W. Bailey Foundation Invites Applications for Early Childhood STEM Education Programs. The [Glenn W. Bailey Foundation](#) is accepting letters of inquiry for innovative early childhood STEM education programs in Florida, New York, Connecticut, or Washington, D.C. The foundation aims to fund projects and programs that give students and educators more resources for developing and participating in STEM-based, hands-on learning. Any program or idea supporting students in Pre-K through 12th grade and into college or vocational studies is eligible. Applicants must also be tax-exempt as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. [read more...](#) **Deadline: July 14, 2023, Rolling.**

Resources

Identifying Gaps in Youth Employment Programs' Capacity to Address Youth Mental Health Needs – National Survey. This [report](#) released by the National Youth Employment Coalition highlights the findings from a national survey deployed in March 2022 to understand the readiness of youth programs across the United States to respond to the youth mental health crisis; the processes and systems providers have in place to fight the crisis; and what supports they need to combat this ongoing, life-threatening challenge.

Mental Health at Work: What Can I Do? PSA Workplace Guide. This [resource](#) released by the Office of Disability Employment Policy features a range of integrated materials to help individuals or organizations support the message of the "Mental Health at Work: What Can I Do?" Public Service Announcement.

Resources

(continued)

Youth and Young Adult Peer Support: Expanding Community-Driven Mental Health Resources.

This [report](#) released by the Mental Health America explores why our current approaches are insufficient and the growing research and programs that support the ability of young people to support other youth. Whether they are learning how to listen to their peers, starting mental health clubs, or working in community mental health, the paper offers example programs and recommendations for barriers and key considerations in advancing and expanding youth peer support.

A Framework For Community Engagement - A Pathway To Competitive Integrated Employment.

This [paper](#) released by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services targeted to both policymakers and service providers, explains what community engagement means and its benefits. Additionally, the paper contains information about the wide variety of services, that when provided together, expand opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities to achieve competitive integrated employment.

New Report Releases Data on Postsecondary Tuition, Fees, and Degrees. This [report](#) issued by the National Center for Education Statistics released a new set of data and web tables (August 23) that includes fully edited and imputed data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) fall 2021 collection. This collection included three survey components: Institutional Characteristics for the 2021-22 academic year, Completions covering the period July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, and data on 12-Month Enrollment for the 2020-21 academic year.

Back-to-School Fast Fact for 2022-23 School Year. This [fact sheet](#) released by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) compiles back-to-school facts and figures that provide a snapshot of schools and colleges in the United States.

Resources

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Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On September 6th, the U.S. Departments of Education will host a webinar entitled: **Fall Fireside Chat: U.S. Department of Education Assistant Secretary Dr. Amy Loyd**. The webinar will feature a conversation between Assistant Secretary Loyd and Advance CTE's Executive Director, Kimberly Green. Together, they will have a far-reaching and engaging discussion that will explore Dr. Loyd's pathway to her current position and her goals for her tenure at OCTAE. They will also discuss emerging trends and priorities in the Career Technical Education (CTE) community and how the federal government and states can continue to work together to advance high-quality and equitable CTE, as well as answer your questions. To register for the webinar, visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xxUdW9-aSsyf3pMZ4syHg.

Past Webinars/Webcasts

On August 18th, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **Supporting Youth Mental Health in the Workforce System**. The webinar featured experts and speakers from the Office of the Surgeon General, the National Youth Employment Coalition, the Employment and Training Administration, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Participants were able to learn about the challenges, and where to find the resources that will allow them to better support youth and their mental health needs. To view an archive of the webinar, visit:

<https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/07/01/18/50/Supporting-Youth-Mental-Health-in-the-Workforce-System>.

On August 11th, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **Training Toolkit for Serving Individuals with Substance Use Disorder**. The webinar provided an overview of training resources developed in Ohio, how they can be accessed and utilized to train workforce professionals in other areas of the public workforce system. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2022/06/08/17/02/Training-Toolkit-For-Serving-Individuals-with-Substance-Use-Disorder>.

On August 11th, the LEAD Center hosted a webinar entitled: **In-Depth Q&A Event: Blended, Braided and Sequenced Funding for Employment, Equity, and Inclusion**. This Q&A event included professionals from Arizona, Colorado, Maryland, North Carolina, and multiple federal agencies who answered implementation and policy questions related to blending, braiding and sequencing resources and funding. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: <https://leadcenter.org/webinar/in-depth-qa-event-blended-braided-and-sequenced-funding-for-employment-equity-and-inclusion/>.

Resources

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On August 9th, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **DOL Grants: What they Are, Who they Serve, How to Apply**. During the webinar participants heard from Department of Labor leadership and staff across grant-making agencies and program offices, learned about the grant programs and funding opportunities available at the Department, how to prepare, partner, or apply, and how to stay informed throughout the year as funding opportunities become available. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/grants>.

Upcoming Events

September 13. American Youth Policy Forum's [2022 Samuel Halperin Youth Public Service Award Presentation](#).

September 22. Federal Aviation Administration's [Advisory and Rulemaking Committees Youth Access to American Jobs in Aviation Task Force](#).

November 3-5. Oklahoma City, OK. National Federation of Families' 2022 Conference, [Families Can't Wait: Providing Essential Support for Today's Challenges and Tomorrow's Wellness](#).

November 14-20. U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) 8th Annual [National Apprenticeship Week](#).



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.