

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 issues TEN 03-23 - Allowable Uses of Funds for Outreach Activities for Federal Formula and Competitive Grant Awards. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has published Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 03-23. This guidance 1) clarifies the allowable uses of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), its successors, and other competitive grant funds for outreach activities; and 2) provides examples of how grantees can use grant funds to effectively and equitably conduct outreach to meet the needs of and better engage businesses and jobseekers. To read the TEG, click [here](#).

DOL Awards Nearly \$14M in Grants to Help Prepare Young People for Good-Paying Jobs, Successful Careers. To support workforce development programs that prepare young people and help them access good-paying careers, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$14 million in grants to seven organizations in five states to deliver workforce services when youth are out of school. The [Workforce Pathways for Youth](#) demonstration grants being made to organizations in Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia and Virginia are intended to support recipients' efforts to supply workforce readiness programming for historically underserved youth from ages 14 to 21 in 21 states and American Samoa. To view the press release, click [here](#).

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 \$7.5m Cooperative Agreement to Continue Support for Disabled Youth Employment Initiatives. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of a \$7.5 million, five-year cooperative agreement to continue support for a policy center aimed at boosting disabled youth employment. Administered by the department's Office of Disability Employment Policy, the agreement will provide \$1.5 million annually for the agency's [Center for Advancing Policy on Employment for Youth](#). ODEP created the center in 2019 to enhance national, state, and local workforce systems, focusing on improved outcomes for youth with disabilities, especially those from underserved communities. To view the press release, click [here](#).

DOL Announces More Than \$69M Funding Available to Help Youth, Young Adults with Disabilities Connect with Good Jobs. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the availability of more than \$69 million in funding over a five-year budget period to support the development of innovative strategies that will help youth and young adults with disabilities transition to the workforce successfully. Administered by the department's Office of Disability Employment Policy, the funding will be awarded in cooperative agreements with four recipients, subject to federal fund availability, at about \$17 million per organization. Initial funding is expected to total \$12.9 million or \$3.2 million per agreement. Aligned with the Biden-Harris administration's efforts to foster a more inclusive workforce, the grants will identify evidence-based solutions to help recipients to better address employment needs of youth and young adults with disabilities. To view the press release, click [here](#). Grant number: [FOA-ODEP-23-12](#). **Deadline: October 31.**

DOL Awards \$5M to Train, Expand Pathways for Women for Registered Apprenticeships, Nontraditional Occupations. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$5 million to organizations in seven states to increase the numbers of women in [Registered Apprenticeship programs](#) and help connect them with good-paying careers in nontraditional occupations where the Biden-Harris administration's historic infrastructure, manufacturing and clean energy investments are creating sharp job increases. The announcement of the [Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations](#) grants was made at AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington. Department leaders joined AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler to showcase the work of the labor organization's Working for America Institute in Birmingham, Alabama. The institute received a \$713,892 grant to support its pre-apprenticeship program's effort to recruit women of color in the region. To view the press release, click [here](#).

Headlines

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DOL Awards \$2M to Cornell University to Help Develop Policy Promoting Workforce Inclusion for People with Disabilities. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced that its Office of Disability Employment Policy has awarded \$2 million in funds to Cornell University to operate an employer-focused, disability policy development and technical assistance center. The funds will support the first year of a cooperative agreement and build on prior work of the agency's Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion. EARN helps employers, human resources professionals, and diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility staff find the resources they need to recruit, hire, retain and advance people with disabilities, including those from historically underserved communities. To view the press release, click [here](#).

DOL Publishes Fact Sheet Outlining Protections Against Discrimination, Bias in Federally Funded Programs, Activities. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) published [a fact sheet that clarifies protections under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act](#) that prohibit certain forms of antisemitic, Islamophobic and related forms of discrimination in federally funded programs and activities. The publication marks the first time the department has put this guidance in writing. The fact sheet and its clarification are key deliverables of the Biden-Harris administration's [National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism](#) and its broader commitment to countering antisemitic, Islamophobic and related forms of discrimination and bias. To view the press release, click [here](#).

Biden-Harris Administration Awards \$16M to Improve Job Quality, Expand Access to Good Jobs in Critical Sectors, Including Care, Climate Resilience, Hospitality. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$16 million in grants to support organizations in 12 states as they pilot strategies to improve job quality and increase the availability of good jobs in the care, climate resiliency and hospitality sectors. While essential to the economy's growth and vitality, these critical sectors have historically provided lower-paying jobs with few benefits, worker protections and opportunities for advancement. Announced at the White House Summit on Building Climate-Resilient Communities, the Critical Sectors Job Quality Grants Program grants will enable recipients to design and deploy programs aligned with the [Good Jobs Principles](#) developed by the departments of Labor and Commerce. These principles provide a guide for employers, local workforce systems and partner organizations to enhance job quality in their communities. To view the press release, click [here](#).

Headlines

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Biden-Harris Administration Awards Nearly \$94M to Train, Prepare Diverse Workforce for Good Jobs Created By 'Investing in America' Agenda. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of nearly \$94 million in grants to support 34 public-private partnerships to provide worker-centered sector strategy training programs in 25 states and the District of Columbia to meet workforce needs created by the Biden-Harris administration's "Investing in America" agenda. Creating pathways to high-quality jobs, including union jobs, is a key component of Bidenomics, the President's economic agenda, which is growing the U.S. economy from the middle out and the bottom up, not from the top down. Administered by the department's [Employment and Training Administration](#), the [Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant Program](#) will help grant recipients design, develop and grow training programs and work-based learning opportunities that prepare job seekers for high-demand, high-quality career pathways in advanced manufacturing, information technology and professional, scientific, and technical service occupations. The training will support jobs in the renewable energy, transportation and broadband infrastructure sectors created through the administration's infrastructure investments. To view the press release, click [here](#).

Biden-Harris Administration Celebrates Completion of Nationwide Unlocking Pathways Summit Series. The Biden-Harris Administration completed its nationwide Unlocking Pathways Summit series today in Biloxi, Mississippi. The four-part series was part of the U.S. Department of Education's [Raise the Bar: Unlocking Career Success](#) initiative, aimed at helping young Americans access good-paying jobs created by President Biden's Bidenomics agenda. The series was supported by the Departments of Transportation, Energy, Commerce, and Labor to increase and expand access to high-quality career pathways helping young Americans prepare for careers of the future in in-demand fields. The Summit series was co-hosted with the national education and workforce development organization Jobs for the Future (JFF), and more than 500 guests from more than 36 states attended the convenings to highlight workforce priorities and growing opportunities for young people created by historic recent federal investments, including the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#), [Inflation Reduction Act](#), and [CHIPS and Science Act](#). To view the press release, click [here](#).

FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Actions to Build on Work to Accelerate Learning and Improve Student Achievement. When President Biden took office, fewer than half of K-12 schools were fully open for in-person learning. Thanks to the President's swift actions and historic investments, every school in America is open safely for in-person instruction. Since Day One, President Biden has worked to help every school accelerate academic achievement, open safely for in-person instruction, and build communities where all students feel they belong. The Administration is building on its extensive [record](#) of investment in K-12 public schools and announcing additional actions to improve instruction and accelerate academic success nationwide as students begin the new school year.

Headlines

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ED Awards Nearly \$199 Million to Improve Career Opportunities for Students with Disabilities Through Partnerships. The U.S. Department of Education's (ED) [Rehabilitation Services Administration](#) (RSA) announced it will fund 20 model demonstration projects focused on improving economic self-sufficiency for children and youth with disabilities by creating systemic approaches to enhance post-school outcomes. The nearly \$199 million in funding for the [Pathways to Partnerships](#) innovative model demonstration project supports collaborative partnerships between state vocational rehabilitation agencies, state and local educational agencies, and federally funded centers for independent living to help individuals with disabilities seamlessly transition to life after high school, preparing them for independent living, competitive integrated employment and community integration. Pathways to Partnerships is the largest discretionary grant ever administered by RSA. To view the press release, click [here](#).

ED Awards More Than \$35 Million to Develop Personnel in Support of Children with Disabilities. The U.S. Department of Education's (ED) Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has awarded more than \$35 million in funding for 138 new awards supporting personnel preparation, ongoing professional learning, and leadership development to increase the number of well-prepared, diverse, and effective personnel serving children with disabilities. OSEP's Personnel Development Program, authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part D, funds activities that recruit, prepare, and retain personnel who serve and support infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities and their families. Personnel include early intervention providers; teachers; related services providers; administrators leading early intervention programs, schools, or local and state agencies; and university faculty who are preparing future generations of personnel to serve children with disabilities. To view the press release, click [here](#).

ED Invites Comments on its 2023–24 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:24) Full-Scale Study—Student Data Collection and Student Records. The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) has published a notice in the [September 29 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). This request is to conduct the 2023–24 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:24) Full-Scale Student Data and Student Records Collections. This study is being conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the IES, part of the U.S. Department of Education. This submission covers materials and procedures related to institution sampling, enrollment list collection, and matching to administrative data files as part of the NPSAS:24 data collection. **Comments due: October 30.**

Headlines

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ED to Promote Educator Diversity Through National Convenings. Extending its commitment to support school systems as they find new and innovative ways to encourage, invest in, and support teachers across America, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) will host two convenings focused on educator diversity. The two events, the **Teach to Lead Summit** and the **Conference on Equity in Opportunity**, will take place in Denver, Colorado, beginning on Oct. 26, 2023, and bring together key educational leaders for national conversations about the importance of educator diversity in our nation's schools. During these events, the Department will bring together leaders in effective educator development to discuss key issues related to promoting educator diversity. The events are designed to lift effective practices and obtain additional insights from participating educators and organizations about how to elevate educator diversity in our nation's schools. To view the press release, click [here](#).

New \$5 Million San Diego County Program Helps Foster Youth Land First Job. San Diego County Supervisor Chairwoman Nora Vargas announced a \$5 million award for the new Career Pathways for Foster Youth program, in partnership with the San Diego Workforce Partnership. The initiative offers workforce and educational development opportunities and provides access to essential resources, mentorship, and training to current and former foster youth ages 16-24. To view the press release, click [here](#).

Coursera Posts Blog: Nevada DETR and Coursera Announce Statewide Program Providing Free Job Training to Thousands of People. Coursera released this [blog](#) which discusses how advancing technologies are [reshaping the labor market](#) in Nevada, and creating new job opportunities that require digital skills. They have announced that the Nevada Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) has partnered with Coursera to launch LearnNV, a new statewide program that will provide free job training to tens of thousands of unemployed and underemployed Nevadans, **particularly young adults**. LearnNV will help bridge skills gaps and create pathways for Nevadans to enter in-demand jobs in the state's increasingly digital economy. The program aims to increase the number of skilled workers with recognized credentials who are available to local employers, with training programs aligned to the state's industry demands.

ACL Awards Alternatives to Guardianship Youth Resource Center. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) awarded a cooperative agreement to the University of Massachusetts Boston to implement a national Alternatives to Guardianship Youth Resource Center. The Alternatives to Guardianship is a new initiative focused on diverting high school students with intellectual and developmental disabilities away from guardianship to supported decision making, which allows individuals with disabilities to make decisions for themselves and choose the level of support they need from people and organizations they trust. To view the press release, click [here](#).

Featured Programs

Anne Arundel Workforce Development Center (AAWDC)

Kayla was a youth participant who came to AAWDC through the Career Jumpstart program with an interest in the healthcare industry. Kayla was extremely responsible, eager, and outgoing during Career Jumpstart. When an employer came to the AAWDC youth team seeking an intern, staff immediately recommended Kayla. She was interviewed and hired on for a Work and Learn that was to last three months. Kayla did incredibly well, so her Work and Learn was extended to six months. During her time as an intern, Kayla helped to organize and distribute gift cards during the pandemic and helped with data and file upkeep, among other responsibilities. Also, during this time, Kayla explored the healthcare industry more, working with team members to figure out her next steps in life.

Upon completion of her Work and Learn in May 2021, AAWDC supported Kayla with Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) training at Anne Arundel Community College using Relief funds. The training was held in the fall semester of 2021 and the spring semester of 2022.

Kayla completed LPN training and graduated from Anne Arundel Community College in May 2022. She passed The National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses on September 15, 2022, and is now a Licensed Practical Nurse at University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center, where she started on October 3, 2022. Kayla works full-time and makes \$27.78 per hour. She said, "AAWDC has given me the assistance and support to achieve my goals."

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

Youngarts Invites Applications for its National Arts Competition. [YoungArts](#) is accepting applications for its 2024 National Arts Competition. Accomplished artists between the ages of 15 and 18 (or in grades 10 through 12) are encouraged to apply for a financial award of up to \$10,000 as well as professional development programs, skills-building workshops, artist residencies, and cultural partnerships to help artists advance their careers and their professional networks. Applications are adjudicated through a blind adjudication process conducted by an independent panel of highly accomplished artists in their fields. Students must demonstrate excellence in classical music, dance, design, film, jazz, photography, theater, visual arts, voice, or writing. [read more...](#) **Deadline: October 13.**

Stark Community Foundation Invites Applications for Programs for Women and Children. The [Stark Community Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its Women's Fund. The fund aims to benefit future generations; increase vital funding for programs that advance women's economic, educational, physical, emotional, social, artistic, and personal growth; and educate and inspire women to become leaders in philanthropy. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to support projects or programs impacting women and children in Stark County, Ohio. Projects must fall within one of the three defined impact areas of economic stability and advancement, mental and emotional health support, and neighborhood-based programming. Eligible applicants must be a nonprofit organization serving Stark County, Ohio residents. [read more...](#) **Deadline: October 13.**

YSA Invites Applications for its Lead Agency Grants. Youth Service America (YSA) will award \$2,500 or \$5,000 Lead Agency Grants to organizations leading a coalition of project planning partners to increase youth participation on MLK Day of Service and Global Youth Service Day/Youth Service Month. [read more...](#) **Deadline: October 27**

Toshiba America Announces Funding Availability for grade 6-12 Science Projects. The [Toshiba America Foundation](#) is accepting applications from grade 6-12 teachers for innovative science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) projects. Grants greater than \$5,000 will be awarded to teachers to support efforts to bring an innovative project to life within their classroom. Applications must be for project-based learning with measurable outcomes. The foundation will not consider requests for computers, laptops, or tablets. [read more...](#) **Deadline: November 1.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Changemakers Invites Applications for its 2023-2024 Prudential Emerging Visionaries Program.

Changemakers is accepting application from young people ages 14-18 who are creating meaningful change in their communities and beyond. Awardees will receive grants for up to \$15,000 in awards, an all-expenses-paid trip to Prudential Head Quarter, and coaching & skills development to help take their innovation to the next level. [read more...](#) **Deadline: November 2.**

HHS Launches Environmental Justice Community Innovator Challenge. As part of the Biden-Harris Administration's historic climate and environmental justice agenda, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the launch of a nation-wide HHS Environmental Justice Community Innovator Challenge to support disadvantaged communities and Tribes facing the brunt of environmental injustices, including health harms due to climate change. This Challenge aims to uplift community-level solutions to address health inequities with prizes totaling \$1,000,000 that will be awarded in two phases. The Challenge will further partnerships with communities, in line with the White House Campaign for Environmental Justice and help drive innovation to catalyze creative solutions to confront longstanding environmental injustices and inequities. To view the press release, click [here](#). For more details on how to enter, click [here](#). **Deadline: January 30, 2024.**

HUD Makes Available \$256 Million in New Choice Neighborhoods Funding. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the availability of \$256 million in [Choice Neighborhoods Implementation \(CNI\) Grants funding](#) to communities across the country. The CNI Grants will ultimately transform public and other HUD-assisted housing, while investing in the surrounding neighborhood and resident services. Public housing authorities, local governments, and/or Tribal entities are eligible and encouraged to apply for these transformative grants of up to \$50 million each. To view the press release, click [here](#). Grant number: [FR-6700-N-34](#). **Deadline: March 4, 2024.**

Resources

Occupational Outlook Handbook. This [handbook](#) published by the Bureau of features the 2022–2023 job projections, along with assessments of the job outlook, work activities, wages, education, and training requirements, and more. The OOH also includes information about more than 500 detailed occupations in over 300 occupational profiles, covering about 4 out of 5 jobs in the economy.

Resources

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Education at a Glance 2023: OECD Indicators. This [report](#) released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) includes more than 100 charts and tables on the teacher salaries, investment in education, access and participation and schools. Additionally, a new chapter explores efforts by OECD countries to integrate Ukrainian children into their education systems.

Report on Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2022. This [publication](#) jointly produced by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) at IES and the Bureau of Justice Statistics at the U.S. Department of Justice, highlights new data on [school shooting and deaths](#), [student victimization](#), teacher [safety](#) and [reports of disruption](#), and on-campus postsecondary [criminal incidents](#), including [hate crimes](#).

Equity in Education Dashboard. This [website](#) released by the National Center for Education Statistics Releases Equity in Education Dashboard compiles key findings and trends on educational equity in the United States from a variety of data sources. The dashboard was developed as part of a larger Department response to the White House Executive Order on [Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government](#). The dashboard's thematic framework is based on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) [Monitoring Educational Equity](#) report.

Career Girls 2023 Third Quarter Newsletter. This publication released by Career Girls allows readers to discover how they are closing the Imagination Gap and learn about some exciting new developments at Career Girls. The publication includes the latest inspiring stories on how role models, educators, and mentors are changing the world. The organization is also dedicated to ensuring that every girl around the world has access to diverse and accomplished women role models, learn from their experiences, and discover their own path to empowerment. To obtain a copy of the newsletter, click [here](#).

Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On October 10th, the Employment and Training Administration will host a webinar entitled: **Using CareerOneStop to Help HBCU Students Explore Careers, Choose Majors, and Job Search.** This webinar will introduce individuals to the U.S. Department of Labor website CareerOneStop and the tools and resources it offers as individuals help students explore careers, choose majors, and prepare for job search after graduation. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Resources

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On October 11th, the Center of Excellence will host a webinar entitled: **[Working with Rural LGBTQIA+ Clients: Considerations for Engagement, Assessment & Practice](#)**. In this webinar, clinicians receive an overview of current research about rural queer experiences with specific attention given to how this information informs engagement, assessment, and practice. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

On October 24th, the Center of Excellence will host a webinar entitled: **[Panel Discussion on Working with Rural LGBTQIA+ Clients](#)**. During the webinar Rural providers from across the country are invited to engage in an interactive discussion around shared experiences and issues related to supporting LGBTQIA+ individuals living in rural areas. Questions and challenges from the field are encourage. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Past Webinars/Webcasts

On September 21st, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **Promising Practices: Elevating the Public Workforce System through Eligible Training Provider Policy**. During the webinar participants discussed promising practices used to uncover innovative strategies in state eligible training provider (ETP) policies; explored the goals and motivations driving policy updates to better support customers; participants gained insights into how customer-centered design influences policy development for maximum impact; and reviewed the eligible training provider website assessment tool to enhance the state's ETP website user experience. To view an archive of the webinar, click [here](#).

On September 20th, the Employment and Training Administration hosted a webinar entitled: **National Apprenticeship Week Public Webinar**. The webinar shared information about how to get involved, including how to register events and proclamations. The webinar also provided resources for planning and promoting events, and information on how to find events near individuals. Attendees also learned about previous NAW events and activities that may provide ideas for events to host during NAW 2023. Lastly, attendees heard business leaders and apprentices from CityWorks DC, Amazon Web Services, Oberg Industries, and the North American Building Trades Union tell their unique story of how Registered Apprenticeship has propelled and transformed their lives. To view an archive of the webinar, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

October 15-18. Orlando, FL. National Dropout Prevention Center's [33rd Annual National Dropout Prevention Conference](#).

October 26. Afterschool Alliance's [Lights On Afterschool](#).

November 6-8. Las Vegas, NV. National Association of Workforce Development Professionals' [2023 Youth Symposium](#).

November 13-19. [9th Annual National Apprenticeship Week](#).



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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.