

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.

Table of Contents

Headlines.....	1-4
Featured Program	5
Funding & Other Opportunities.....	6-7
Resources	8-10
Upcoming Events	10

Headlines

DOL Awards \$98M in Grants to Support Training, Employment Services to Young People, Increase Apprenticeships in High-Demand Careers. The Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$98 million in grants to 72 organizations in 30 states and Guam to provide training and employment services in an ongoing effort to expand access to apprenticeship opportunities, prepare young workers for quality jobs and strengthen the nation's workforce to meet industry demands. The department prioritized proposals that align training with local infrastructure projects funded by the Biden-Harris administration's [Investing in America](#) agenda. 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

(continued)

DOL Announces \$49.2 Million in Available Funding to Support Career Training, Wraparound Services to Connect Rural Workers with Good Jobs. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the availability of \$49.2 million in funding to provide career training services to prepare workers in the Appalachian, Lower Mississippi Delta, and Northern Border regions to obtain quality jobs. The [Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities \(WORC\) Initiative](#) demonstration grants, which range in size from \$150,000 to \$1.5 million, will fund projects to provide career training and supportive services to workers who live or work in these regions to help them secure good-paying, stable jobs in high-demand occupations. WORC grants are intended to promote economic mobility; address historic inequities in marginalized communities, including people of color, people with disabilities and other underrepresented communities; and produce high-quality employment outcomes enabling workers to remain and thrive in these communities. To view the press release, click [here](#). Grant number: [FOA-ETA-24-08](#). **Deadline: June 20.**

DOL to Award \$67.1 Million to Help Youth, Young Adults with Disabilities Overcome Obstacles to Employment. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$10.5 million to fund the first year of four, five-year cooperative agreements aimed at developing strategies to assist youth and young adults with disabilities — particularly in underserved communities — in successfully transitioning into the workforce. Administered by the department's Office of Disability Employment Policy and the Employment and Training Administration, the Equitable Transition Model Demonstration grants support efforts to identify evidence-based solutions that enhance the training and employment prospects of disabled youth and young adults. Each award recipient will focus on specific populations, determined through data analysis, and needs assessments. To view the press release, click [here](#).

DOL Awards \$65M in Strengthening Community Colleges Grants to Expand Access to Training, Skill Development for In-Demand Industries. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$65 million in grants to 16 colleges in 14 states to expand their capacity to provide training to meet the skill development needs of employers and help students obtain good jobs. Administered by the department's [Employment and Training Administration](#), the fourth round of [Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants](#) will support individual community colleges, as well as consortia of colleges, to prepare students for jobs that pay family-sustaining wages and offer career development opportunities based on the [Good Jobs Principles](#) developed by the departments of Labor and Commerce in 2022. To view the press release, click [here](#).

Headlines

(continued)

DOL Announces Availability of \$6M in Grants to Attract, Retain Women in Registered Apprenticeships, Nontraditional Occupations. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced a funding opportunity of \$6 million for up to 17 grants to attract and keep women in Registered Apprenticeship programs and industries where they are underrepresented, including manufacturing, construction, and cybersecurity. Administered jointly by the department's Women's Bureau and Employment and Training Administration, the [Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations Grant Program](#) supports community-based organizations in their efforts to recruit, train and retain more women in Registered Apprenticeships and nontraditional occupations. To view the press release, click [here](#). Grant number: [FOA-WB-24-00](#). **Deadline: June 10.**

FACT SHEET: President Biden Announces New Workforce Hubs to Train and Connect American Workers to Good Jobs Created by the President's Investing in America Agenda. President Biden will announce four new Workforce Hubs to ensure all Americans can access the good jobs created by the President's Investing in America agenda, which includes the American Rescue Plan, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the CHIPS and Science Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act. President Biden will make the announcement during his visit to Syracuse, New York, to highlight a CHIPS and Science Act preliminary agreement with Micron to dramatically expand semiconductor manufacturing in the United States. The Upstate New York region will be one of the four new Workforce Hubs, in addition to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the state of Michigan. To obtain additional information, click [here](#).

DOJ Announces Revision to Final Rule on Nondiscrimination Because of Disability. The Civil Rights Division within the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has published the [April 24 FEDERAL REGISTER](#). The final rule revises the regulation implementing title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act to establish specific requirements, including the adoption of specific technical standards, for making accessible the services, programs, and activities offered by State and local government entities to the public through the web and mobile applications. This rule is effective June 24, 2024.

Headlines

(continued)

EPA Announces a \$425,000 Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Grant to Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation is receiving \$425,616 to advance their goal of cultivating a society of individuals with a deep understanding of the dynamic interdependencies between human and natural systems. This project will develop the next generation of environmental justice advocates, equipped with Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) skills to protect local watersheds, and enhance climate resilience through school-community collaboration. To view the press release, click [here](#).

ACF Invites Applications for its Refugee Career Pathways Program. The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) has announced the availability of \$5,000,000 for the Refugee Career Pathways (RCP) program with the projected award of 15 grants. There is a wide spectrum of [eligible applicants](#) under this ACF Refugee Career Pathways Program solicitation. Both the [Partnership and Data Reporting sections address apprenticeship, OJT, and credential attainment](#). Through the RCP program, ORR will provide funding to enable refugees and other eligible populations to achieve self-sufficiency by obtaining the means to secure professional or skilled employment drawing upon previously acquired knowledge, skills, and experience. Grant number: [HHS-2024-ACF-ORR-ZM-0020](#). **Deadline: June 28.**

Black Girls Code Joins RiseUp with ServiceNow to Launch Three-Year Workforce Development Initiative in NYC. Black Girls Code joined RiseUp with ServiceNow to launch a three-year initiative to create new career pathways for New York's workforce. Cristina Jones, CEO of Black Girls Code, joined a panel discussion with Black Girls Code board member Selina Suarez, who is Global Head of NextGen at ServiceNow. Also on the panel were David Banks, Chancellor of New York City Public Schools; Donald Ruff, CEO of Eagle Academy; and John Herbert, CIO and EVP, Enterprise & Media Technology at Fox Corporation. RiseUp with ServiceNow is a global talent movement to train one million people on the ServiceNow Platform. By unifying leaders from community-based organizations, academic institutions, and local government, along with ServiceNow customers and partners, the ServiceNow ecosystem will be fueled with inspired, diverse, and job-ready talent. The opportunity is to develop untapped sources of talent in New York City and provide professional and career pathways. To obtain additional information, click [here](#).

Featured Resource and Event

Youth Employment: A Foundation for Mental Health and Well-being

The Department of Labor (DOL) knows the workforce system is an important partner in supporting the mental health of young people, and that good jobs are a critical component of well-being and security. DOL is committed to equipping the workforce system with resources and connections to ensure that youth employment programs are a bridge to the wellness services young people need. That's why during this Mental Health Awareness Month, the Department of Labor is focused on the mental health and wellbeing of young people.

Towards this effort, on May 8, the Department launched a new webpage (www.dol.gov/youthmentalhealth) with concrete actions that communities can take to support the mental health and wellbeing of young people.

Whether you're a young person, part of the workforce system, an employer, or a policymaker, we all have a role supporting young people's well-being including by helping more young people access the mental health resources they need... and get into good jobs that they can build a healthy life around and thrive.

Please explore our content and share with us what you are doing in your community on this important topic by submitting your stories through our new webpage.

JOIN US FOR A LIVE EVENT!

The Department will host a webinar where you can come learn from DOL leaders about what they're doing to support youth mental health and wellbeing and actions communities can take.

Youth Employment: A Foundation for Mental Health and Well-being

Tuesday, May 14

2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

Virtual Event

[Register Here](#)

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

DOJ Announces Funding Opportunity for Mentoring for Youth Affected by Opioid and Other Substance Misuse Grant. The Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) within the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) is accepting applications for its OJJDP FY24 Mentoring for Youth Affected by Opioid and Other Substance Misuse grant program. This program seeks to enhance and expand mentoring services for children and youth impacted by opioids and other substance misuse. The program also supports mentoring programs to reduce juvenile delinquency, substance misuse, and problem and high-risk behaviors such as truancy. Grant number: [O-OJJDP-2024-172020](#). **Deadline: May 23.**

SolveMIT Invites Applications for its Learning for Civic Action Challenge Grants. Solve Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) is accepting application for its Learning for Civic Action Challenge grants. The grants will be awarded to support eight technology-enabled solutions that will help learners take effective action on community and global issues by deepening civic knowledge and practicing collaborative problem-solving. [read more](#). **Deadline: May 11.**

Siegel Family Endowment and Walton Family Foundation Invites Applications for its Learning Landscapes Challenge. The [Siegel Family Endowment](#) and the [Walton Family Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its Learning Landscapes Challenge. The challenge aims to help changemakers integrate social, digital, and physical infrastructure to bridge the learning of today with the learning of tomorrow. The multiphase challenge will provide entrants with funding, expertise, and access to a collaborative community of like-minded partners that can help them scale their solutions. [read more...](#) **Deadline: May 14th.**

Bill of Rights Institute Invites Applications for its MyImpact Challenge. The Bill of Rights Institute is accepting applications for its MyImpact Challenge. The Challenge is a civic engagement contest designed to provide support to students and teachers for service projects that foster a robust understanding of citizenship and get students active in their communities now. Awardees can win up to \$10,000. [read more](#). **Deadline: May 19.**

United Way Announces its Day of Action. The United Way is inviting communities around the world to come together to harness the volunteer spirit and improve the conditions in which they live. Join people across the globe taking action to improve their communities by volunteering with United Way on their Day of Action. [read more...](#) **Deadline: June 21.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Cigna Group Foundation Issues RFP to Improve Youth Mental Health. The [Cigna Group Foundation](#) has issued a request for proposals (RFP) to improve youth mental health. The foundation is committing \$9 million over three years to improve the mental health of youth ages 5 to 18 as it relates to post-pandemic stress and distress. This commitment includes support for those who care for youth in everyday settings and interactions, including their parents, caregivers, and youth service professionals, such as educators and therapists. The foundation also seeks to collaborate with and support nonprofits that leverage evidence-informed programs and services to serve local youth experiencing the most need. Grants of between \$100,000 and \$150,000 will be awarded within the geographical focus areas of Connecticut, Georgia, Missouri, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Texas. Eligible applicants must be tax-exempt as defined by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. [read more...](#)

Deadline: May 22.

Borealis Philanthropy Invites Applications for their Disability Inclusion Fund. [Borealis Philanthropy](#) is accepting applications from organizations working to strengthen disability inclusion, rights, and justice. The Disability Inclusion Fund (DIF) grants will support organizations whose work is rooted in intersectional cross-movements, is collaborative, and aims to build a more vibrant, just, and joyful world for people with disabilities—from arts and culture to policy and advocacy. Awardees will receive grants of \$75,000 per year for two years. Eligible applicant organizations must have an annual budget with committed revenue less than \$1 million and must be U.S.-based or U.S. territory-based 501(c)(3) or be fiscally sponsored. [read more...](#) **Deadline: May 29.**

Allstate Foundation Announces the launch of its Youth Action Board. The Allstate Foundation in partnership with Campus Compact is accepting applications for its Youth Action Board. The board will empower 30 youth changemakers (aged 18-22) to serve communities nationally and mobilize their peers to serve. All travel, lodging, and meal expenses of selected members will be covered for in-person board meetings which also includes \$4,000 stipends. [read more...](#)

Deadline: May 31.

Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice Seeking Youth Advisory Board Applicants. The Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice (CTRJJ) is forming an advisory board of young adults aged 18-25 with lived experience in the juvenile justice system. Youth advisory board members will be compensated for quarterly, online meetings and possible participation in CTRJJ work. [read more...](#) **Deadline: Open.**

YSA Accepting Applications for its Everyday Young Hero Awards. Youth Service America is accepting nominations for its Everyday Young Heroes awards. The awards will recognize young people, ages 5-25, who are improving their communities through service. One young person will be selected and receive a letter and certificate of recognition and will be highlighted in YSA's newsletter and social media. [read more...](#) **Deadline: Open.**

Resources

MHA Mental Health Month Toolkit. This [toolkit](#) released by Mental Health America (MHA) provides sample communication materials, social media assets, fact sheets, worksheets, posters, and more to help plan mental health efforts and raise awareness during the month of May and beyond.

Career Pathways Roadmap. This multi-pathway [tool](#) updated by National Institute for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies offers an interactive way for working professionals (cyber and non-cyber), employers, students, and recent grads to explore and build their own career roadmap across the 52 different NICE Framework work roles.

Leveraging the Potential of Youth Service: A Call to Action. This [report](#) released by the Center for Expanding Leadership and Opportunity reflects a year-long process of engaging with youth, community stakeholders, service organizations, educational leaders, and advocates. Together, this intergenerational, multi-sector group reviewed existing scholarship, policy, and practice along with conducting listening sessions with youth across the country and surveys with youth, parents, and educators. The results introduce a new definition, model, and design considerations to guide the next decade of youth-led, youth-driven service.

College and Career Possibilities Rooted in Place: How Rural Community College and Industry Partnerships Help People, Communities, and Business Thrive. This [report](#) released by the National Skills Coalition highlights how industry partnerships benefit rural learners and employers alike – and shines a light on the rich variety of rural contexts, state systems, investments, and policies that can help drive and sustain effective partnerships between rural community colleges and local industry.

OCTAE Updates Its Community College Webpage. The Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) within the U.S. Department of Education has [updated its webpage](#) which is dedicated to supporting our nation's community colleges. The revamped page now features essential resources, including facts at a glance, comprehensive insights into the Department of Education's community college initiatives, cutting-edge research, and invaluable federal funding opportunities tailored specifically for community colleges.

Resources

(continued)

American Climate Corps Launches Website and Applicant Portal. The American Climate Corps has launched a new website and applicant portal. The website is designed to mobilize a new diverse generation of creators, thinkers, leaders, and doers, working together to tackle the climate crisis. To view the website, click [here](#).

Upcoming Webinars/Webcasts

On May 8th, the Employment and Training Administration will host a webinar entitled: **"Investing in America" Agenda: Registered Apprenticeship and Other Pathways for Opportunity Youth.** The webinar will provide a holistic overview of the Investing in America Agenda, provide examples of how communities and workforce boards can partner together to leverage resources, and explore how funds can be utilized to train opportunity youth to support RA pathways, other career pipelines, and industry's growing needs. [Click here](#) to register for the webinar.

On May 17th, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), through the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), is convening a one-day event entitled: **2024 Children, Youth, and Young Adult Mental Health Symposium.** The symposium will represent a cross-section of mental health stakeholders who will share information and best practices for improving mental health outcomes for children, youth, young adults, and their families in schools and communities. To view the live stream symposium, click [here](#).

Past Webinars/Webcasts

On April 29th the Urban Institute hosted a webinar entitled: **Expanding Equitable Access to Green Jobs: A Framework for Collaborative Action.** During the webinar presenters discussed how local communities can help workers from historically marginalized communities access the good jobs that are emerging. The webinar also featured a presentation of Urban research followed by practitioner panelists who shared their experiences in the field, promising strategies, and insights to inform program and policy implementation. To view an archive of the discussion, click [here](#).

Resources

(continued)

On April 25th the Brookings Center on Regulation and Markets hosted an event entitled: **Work in the Age of AI**. During the event the presenters discussed the transformative impact of AI on labor markets. Panelists Daron Acemoglu (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Daniel Susskind (Oxford University and King's College London), and Russell Wald (Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence) began with a conversation moderated by Anton Korinek (University of Virginia) on the most recent advances in AI and their potential implications for the workforce. The panel then explored strategies for steering the labor market effects of AI in a desirable direction in the near term, focusing on policies and practices that can help workers adapt to changing job requirements and ensure that the benefits of AI are distributed broadly. Finally, the panel analyzed the medium- to long-term threat of AI reaching human-level capabilities, and examined how to maintain shared prosperity in a world in which labor markets may experience more fundamental disruption. To view an archive of the webinar, click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

May 2024. [Mental Health Month](#).

May 5-11. [Youth Apprenticeship Week](#).

May 13-15. National Skills Coalition's [Skills Summit](#).

July 6-10. University of Connecticut School of Social Work [Innovations Institute](#).

September 9-12. Washington, DC. 2024 Global Youth Economic Opportunities (GYEO) [Summit](#).

September 12-14. Washington, DC. National Youth Employment Coalition's [Youth Days](#).



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.