

Leveraging Federal Infrastructure Investments to Expand Registered Apprenticeship

Insights and Planning Tool



Use this document to capture notes and help you plan next steps for helping your state leverage federal infrastructure investments to expand Registered Apprenticeship. These projects include investments to generate clean energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; improve transportation, water, energy, and broadband systems; and build semiconductor-related facilities.

The document is organized around three key action areas identified in the April 11, 2024, webinar on this same topic. In each section, you will find a place to capture your insights and ideas, key things to think about to start your planning, and resources related to the topic.

Information Gathering

To help position Registered Apprenticeship and quality pre-apprenticeship as go-to workforce development solutions for infrastructure occupations in your state, you'll need to do some basic information gathering about how your state is responding to Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and CHIPS and Science Act (CHIPS) investment opportunities. Your goal is not to generate comprehensive information—there are hundreds of BIL, IRA, and CHIPS programs, they may involve many public agencies and industries, and many decisions are being made in real time. **The purpose of this exercise is to generate intelligence about the investments and factors shaping labor market demand in your state and to identify leads for you to follow given your knowledge of the politics, civics, and economics of your state.** Questions you want to answer include:

- What are the current, planned, or potential projects in your state supported by the investments made under these laws?
- How will these investments shape labor market demand in your state?
- How are these investments likely to change labor market demand for apprenticeable occupations?

Actions You Can Take

- ☐ Identify which agencies and people within your state are leading strategic infrastructure, climate, and energy investment strategies.
- ☐ Identify agencies or coalitions in your state that have been awarded federal grants.
- ☐ Review priorities and plans laid out in various public documents.

Sector/Project	Documented Workforce Development Challenges/Needs	Impacted Apprenticeship Occupations
EXAMPLE: Broadway All the Way (Complete Street project in KY)	Training new construction workers and diversifying the pipeline	Skilled trades occupations

RESOURCES. For a collection of resources and tools, check out:

Funding Opportunities and Awarded Grants

- [Funding opportunities shared by the White House.](#)
- [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law state fact sheets.](#) These state fact sheets provide more detailed information about announced funding and projects in each state, along with anticipated funding by category over the next five years.
- [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law map of progress.](#) This map shows announced and select awarded funding locations and projects.
- [Inflation Reduction Act state fact sheets.](#) These fact sheets highlight how the Inflation Reduction Act helps families save on their utility bills, get tax credits for electric vehicles and energy-saving appliances, and access the economic opportunities of the clean energy future.
- [Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity \(RAISE\) grants, and summaries of awards with strong workforce components](#)
- [Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highway Projects program \(INFRA\) grants, and summaries of awards with strong workforce components](#)
- [Clean Hydrogen Hubs](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy

Strategic Plans

- [Digital equity plans](#) per the [Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment \(BEAD\) Program](#)
- [Electric vehicle charging plans](#) per the [National Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Program](#)
- [Long-range statewide transportation plans](#) (look on the website of your state's department of transportation)

- [Statewide transportation improvement programs](#) (look on the website of your state's department of transportation)

Implementation Resources for States from the National Governors Association

- [Workforce Development in the IIJA \[Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act\], CHIPS, and IRA](#)
- [IIJA Implementation Resources](#)

Sector-Specific Outreach and Activity

Harnessing infrastructure workforce development and Registered Apprenticeship opportunities requires buy-in from employers. **How are you articulating the value of apprenticeship to these sectors, and how are you partnering to help them act more strategically in recruiting, training, hiring, and retaining workers?**

Actions You Can Take

- ☐ Assess the status of your current activities in each sector.
- ☐ Identify opportunities to deepen your engagement, if appropriate.

Infrastructure Sectors	Current Outreach/ Relationships/Partnership Efforts	Future Opportunities to Pursue
Transportation within a region Local bridges & roads, public transit, bike/pedestrian infrastructure		
Transportation between regions Passenger rail, airports, highways		
Trade and logistics Freight rail, air cargo, trucking, seaports, warehousing, express/local deliveries		
Energy Generation, transmission, and distribution of energy		
Water Clean/drinking water, stormwater treatment		
Telecommunications Broadband and transmission infrastructure		
Public works		

Infrastructure Sectors	Current Outreach/ Relationships/Partnership Efforts	Future Opportunities to Pursue
Streetscapes, land redevelopment, waste/landfills		

RESOURCES. For resources related to infrastructure sector outreach, check out:

- [Infrastructure Resources | Apprenticeship.gov](#)
- [Infrastructure Workforce Resources | National Governors Association \(nga.org\)](#)
- [*Investing in America: Best Practices to Expand Access to Jobs and Economic Opportunity Through Transportation Infrastructure Investments*](#), U.S. Department of Transportation
- [*Creating a Skilled and Diverse Workforce for Infrastructure Projects through Registered Apprenticeship: Questions and Answers for State Transportation Agencies*](#), U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Transportation
- [Transit Workforce Center](#) (specifically the American Transit Training and Apprenticeship Innovators Network, ATTAIN; see [here](#) and [here](#)), Federal Transit Administration
- [*Building the U.S. Semiconductor Workforce*](#), U.S. Department of Commerce
- [*CHIPS Fact Sheet: Building a Skilled and Diverse Workforce*](#), U.S. Department of Commerce
- [Battery Workforce Initiative](#), U.S. Department of Energy

System Alignment and Partnership

Leveraging this historic opportunity requires partnership and strategic systems alignment. **Which of your current partnerships can you leverage, and which do you need to strengthen? What new partnerships might you need to develop? And what strategic planning processes can you harness to position Registered Apprenticeship as a key workforce development solution in the state?**

Actions You Can Take

- ☐ Identify your state's [infrastructure coordinator](#) and how are they approaching their role.
- ☐ Identify the state and local infrastructure leaders who control or direct infrastructure and climate funds.
- ☐ Identify current and future planning activities.
- ☐ Work with key partners to shape investment implementation and future funding applications.

Key Partners in Your State	Current Status of Partnership	Next Steps
EXAMPLE: <i>RAISE grantees in the state</i>	<i>Collaborate closely with two grantees and need to build connection to the third.</i>	<i>Reach out and introduce yourself and your team to the third RAISE grantee. Meet with other two grantees to discuss ongoing support.</i>

Strategic Planning Opportunities	Current Status	Next Steps
EXAMPLE: <i>Five-year State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula (SAEF) grantee strategic plan</i>	<i>Current plan does not include expansion goals into the energy sector despite significant federal investments coming into the state.</i>	<i>Work with partners to develop and integrate a plan for the energy sector into the SAEF strategic plan.</i>

RESOURCES. For resources related to federal guidance and information related to workforce development, either department- or program-specific, check out:

- [Grant Application Checklist for a Strong Transportation Workforce and Labor Plan](#), U.S. Department of Transportation
 - [Fact sheet: Highway Funding for Workforce Development](#), U.S. Department of Transportation
 - [Highway Construction Workforce Partnership](#), U.S. Department of Transportation
 - [Guidance for Use of Highway Formula Funds for Training, Education, and Workforce Development](#), U.S. Department of Transportation
 - [Webinar: Workforce Development Tools and Resources](#), Joint Office of Energy and Transportation
 - [CHIPS for America: Workforce Development Planning Guide; Guidance for CHIPS Incentives Applicants](#), U.S. Department of Commerce
 - [Internet for All Workforce Planning Guide: Guidance for BEAD Program Eligible Entities](#), U.S. Department of Commerce
 - [Office of Energy Jobs](#), U.S. Department of Energy
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Getting Started

Now that you have gained new insights, ideas, and examples of leveraging federal infrastructure investments, **how will you get started to advance infrastructure apprenticeship efforts in your state?**

Identify five concrete next steps that you can take to move forward with helping your state leverage federal infrastructure investments to expand Registered Apprenticeship.

Next Step		Owner	Timeline
	<i>EXAMPLE: Review our state’s BEAD and digital equity plan to identify workforce development needs and strategies for potential apprenticeship alignment.</i>	Grantee	May 2024
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			