

September Newsletter

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Welcome to the September 2024 newsletter!

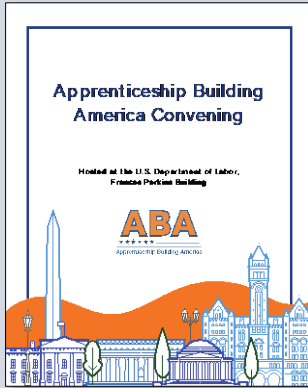
In this month's newsletter, we are highlighting the change in the RAPIDS URL address, how to prepare for National Apprenticeship Week, and ABA grantee South Bay Workforce Investment Boards recent success!

Don't Miss ABA's In-Person Convening this October

From October 15-17, ABA grantees will have an exclusive opportunity to immerse themselves in all things apprenticeship and gain a deep understanding of Registered Apprenticeship (RA) Program models, explore national priorities, and network with peers, technical experts, and coaches to supercharge their program strategies.

This in-person convening promises hands-on learning, peer engagement sessions, and interactive discussions led by industry experts.

Grantees will leave with actionable insights to boost program sustainability, strengthen relationships, and align with the future of RA Programs at the federal level.



Guest speakers include officials from the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship, the National Association of State Workforce Agencies, workforce development boards, colleges and universities, RA Programs, and community-based organizations.

This is more than just a three-day event—it's a unique chance to be part of the national conversation shaping the future of RAs. With expert-led breakout sessions, peer-to-peer exchanges, and invaluable networking opportunities, this convening will empower ABA grantees with the tools and knowledge to drive impactful change.

Mark your calendars now — you won't want to miss it!

National Apprenticeship Week 2024: Celebrating 10 Years of Engagement, Expansion, and Innovation



This November we commemorate the [10th Annual National Apprenticeship Week \(NAW\)](#). It will take place **November 17-23, 2024** - make sure to mark your calendars if you haven't already!

NAW celebrates the successes and ongoing work being done by employers, community-based organizations, workforce partners, educational institutions, and federal, state, and local government agencies. This year's theme aims to highlight the role of Registered Apprenticeship in bringing together key national, regional, state and local stakeholders across the country to meet dynamic workforce needs.

Get involved:

- ▶ Host an Event for NAW – Host an apprenticeship related event or activity! Check out the [NAW Resources Page](#).
- ▶ Submit a NAW Proclamation – Proclaim your support for Registered Apprenticeship! A variety of templates are available on the [NAW Resources Page](#).
- ▶ Spread the word – Check out the NAW 2024 Editable Flyers, Social Media Tip Sheet, and more on the [NAW Resources Page](#)!
- ▶ Find an event near you:
 - Search the [listing of scheduled events](#) to find local events and proclamations issued by partners at the city, state, or federal level for NAW 2024.
 - You can also check out the *Events and Proclamations Map* at the bottom of the [National Apprenticeship Week page](#) on Apprenticeship.gov.

South Bay Workforce Investment Board Becomes First in Nation to Secure National Apprenticeship Standard

The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration announced that South Bay Workforce Investment Board (WIB) is now the first WIB to have a national apprenticeship standard approved, marking a significant milestone in workforce development.

"First workforce board in the country to have a national program," beamed South Bay Workforce Investment Board Director of Business Services & Apprenticeship Chris Cagle in an emailed statement.

This approval highlights the growing role of WIBs in connecting employers, apprentices, and training programs to meet local labor demands. With this national standard, the West Coast WIB is poised to enhance apprenticeship opportunities in key industries, ensuring that workers gain valuable skills and credentials recognized across the country.



WIBs are established under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and are local boards tasked with overseeing workforce development initiatives in their regions. The boards function by identifying gaps in employment, partnering with local businesses, and creating programs to train workers in high-demand fields.

By securing a national apprenticeship standard, South Bay WIB has set a precedent for other WIBs across the nation, offering a model of how workforce boards can expand training opportunities and improve job placement outcomes.

"We did it in part because our local California companies wanted it. As you know, many companies have multiple locations, some in other states. Companies here want to do apprenticeships but also need to be mindful of how they spend their time. Now, the work they do to set up their program in California will scale to wherever they do business because our Registered Apprenticeships (RAs) will work in every state," Cagle said. "The apprenticeships we create for them here will work companywide across America!"

This achievement underscores the importance of RAs in addressing both local and national workforce needs. With a national standard in place, South Bay WIB's apprenticeship programs will not only cater to California's industries but will also have the flexibility to expand across state lines, benefiting companies with a broader geographic footprint.



In doing so, South Bay WIB can reduce administrative barriers for employers while providing workers with portable, nationally recognized skills and certifications, making them more competitive in the job market.

The approval is a direct response to growing demands from businesses for more cohesive, scalable workforce solutions. RAs have long been recognized as one of the most effective ways to develop skilled workers by combining on-the-job training with classroom instruction. By establishing a national standard, South Bay WIB ensures that its apprenticeships will be transferable, benefiting both workers and employers by eliminating the need to reinvent training programs when companies expand to new regions.

This milestone is expected to encourage other WIBs across the country to pursue national standards for their apprenticeship programs, fostering greater collaboration between states and driving the development of a more unified workforce system.

Quarterly Reporting Reminder: Key Requirements for ABA Grantees

As a reminder, all ABA grantees must submit their Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) and related documentation, including the ABA-specific spreadsheet for your grant category. This report details updates on program implementation, progress toward the statement of work, and outcomes for participants receiving grant-funded services.



For Categories 1, 2, and 3, grantees are required to:

- ▶ Upload the Quarterly Narrative Report (QNR) and QPR
- ▶ Submit participant data or confirm no participants if applicable
- ▶ Attach or email the completed ABA table as part of your submission

Failure to submit the required documents by the deadline may result in delays in processing or potential compliance issues. We encourage all grantees to review the submission requirements carefully and ensure that all necessary information is included.

Should grantees encounter any difficulties or have questions regarding the reports, please reach out to your assigned grant coach for support. Their guidance can help ensure that your submissions are accurate and complete, minimizing any issues during the review process.

Additionally, it is important to ensure that all data provided aligns with the goals outlined in the grantee's respective statement of work and reflects measurable progress toward achieving their grant objectives.

New Publications Illuminate Pathways for Youth and Infrastructure Workforce Development

Two publications have been released this month, the [Amplifying Youth Perspectives: The Role of Positive Youth Development and Youth Voice in Workforce Development](#), which explores insights of young voices in our communities, and the [ABA Guide to Registered Apprenticeships in Infrastructure](#), a comprehensive resource designed to advance career pathways in critical infrastructure sectors.

The ABA Guide to Registered Apprenticeships in Infrastructure provides an essential resource for understanding and navigating the impact of the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which represents a groundbreaking \$1.2 trillion investment in America's core infrastructure needs.

The guide highlights how this monumental funding, along with additional federal investments such as the Inflation Reduction Act and the CHIPS Act, supports the development of a skilled and diverse workforce through Registered Apprenticeship (RA) Programs.

With a focus on sectors such as clean energy, transportation, construction, telecommunications, and advanced manufacturing, the guide offers invaluable insights into industry trends, workforce snapshots, and high-demand occupations. It also includes detailed resources, such as work process schedules and competency-based occupational frameworks, designed to support ABA grantees in expanding and enhancing their pre-apprenticeship and RA Programs.



The Amplifying Youth Perspectives publication highlights the best ways to involve young people in shaping their own career paths. It reminds RA sponsors, employers, and other youth workforce groups why it's crucial to make programs relevant, accessible, and impactful for young people.

The publication is based on a review of over 100 sources about youth development, including how to include their voices and support their growth. It identifies two main approaches: Youth Voice and Positive Youth Development. The report discusses these approaches through three key themes: building strong youth-adult partnerships, ensuring safety and a sense of belonging, and encouraging community engagement.

Grantees are encouraged to use these publications as valuable tools in their efforts to enhance workforce development and create impactful programs. By leveraging the insights and strategies from both the guide and the Amplifying Youth Perspectives publication, grantees can better address the needs of diverse populations and build robust pathways for career success.

New White Paper Highlights Power of Demographic Data for Informed Decision-Making

On September 12, the Council of State Governments' Apprenticeship Data Alignment and Performance Technical Assistance Center released a white paper, "[Leveraging Demographic Data](#)," highlighting how detailed population data can enhance government decision-making to better serve diverse citizen needs.

The 16-page paper written by Joe Paul, Natalie Rogers and Morgan Thomas describes demographic data as “crucial” for effective governance, shaping public policy, infrastructure planning, and resource allocation.

True to its name, ABA grantees can adapt and leverage the new release to explore innovative ways of utilizing their program's demographic data, unlocking deeper insights that can inform and enhance decision-making processes for more targeted and effective policy development.

Change to RAPIDS URL Address

Attention: Registered Apprenticeship stakeholders, Office of Apprenticeship staff, and State Apprenticeship Agencies (SAA) – The Uniform Resource Locator (URL) that allows access to:

- ▶ Registered Apprenticeship Partners Information Database System (RAPIDS);
- ▶ Standards Builder;
- ▶ The SAA Portal;
- ▶ Apprentice Information (AI) Demographic Portal;
- ▶ Apprenticeship Occupation Request (AOR) Tool; and the
- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Data Download Portal.

Effective August 8, 2024, <https://entbpmp.dol.gov> is the new URL for the applications mentioned above.

The previous URL, <https://dol.appiancloud.com> is no longer active. This change does not precipitate any disruption to the Single Sign-On or Login.gov processes that users may currently employ.

As of April 13th, the Department of Labor transitioned systems for the following applications: RAPIDS, Standards Builder, SAA Upload Portal, AI Contractor Demographic Portal, AOR Tool, and the MOU Data Download Portal. In order to access these systems, users must utilize the new URL: <https://entbpmp.dol.gov/suite/>.

Upcoming Events

ABA Peer to Peer: National Apprenticeship Hubs (Virtual)

November 5, 2024, at 2 PM EST

WIPS Office Hours

November 7, 2024, at 3 PM EST

[Registration Link](#)

November 14, 2024, at 3 PM EST

[Registration Link](#)

ABA Peer to Peer: Pre-Apprenticeship to Apprenticeship (Virtual)

November 12, 2024, at 2 PM EST

ABA Peer to Peer: Youth or CTE Apprenticeships (Virtual)

November 12, 2024, at 2 PM EST



National Apprenticeship Week; November 17-23, 2024

ABA Peer to Peer: Emerging Apprenticeship Industries (Virtual)

November 19, 2024, at 2 PM EST

ABA Peer to Peer: Regional/State/Local Hubs (Virtual)

November 26, 2024, at 2 PM EST

Relevant Resources

Additionally, here is a curated list of several resources to check out:

1. [The State of Apprenticeships in California: Growth and Learnings from the Golden State](#)
2. [Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Accessibility \(DEIA\) Training Series Toolkit](#)
3. [Advancing Earnings of Populations Underrepresented in Apprenticeship: Findings from the Evaluation of the American Apprenticeship Initiative](#)
4. [National Apprenticeship Week 2024 Public Webinar Recording](#)
5. [Leveraging Credit for Prior Learning in Youth Apprenticeship Strategies](#)
6. [Amplifying Youth Voices: Navigating Youth Engagement from Advisors to Leaders](#)
7. [Federal and State Inclusive Apprenticeship Policies](#)



Apprenticeship in the News

- ▶ [Apprenticeships open up all kinds of career paths](#)
- ▶ [Building Pathways for California's Opportunity Youth: Unpacking the COYA Grant and Its Potential Impact on Youth Apprenticeship Programs](#)

Grantees in the News

- ▶ [New Report on the 'State of Apprenticeships in California' Released by California Community Colleges](#)
- ▶ [ApprenticeshipNH and Sanel NAPA launch apprenticeship program to develop front-line talent](#)
- ▶ [Big Growth in Apprenticeships in North Carolina](#)

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