



JOBS FOR THE FUTURE

CENTER FOR APPRENTICESHIP AND WORK-BASED LEARNING

Over the last three years, U.S. employers have added over 150,000 new apprentices, helping to build on the 80-year history of Registered Apprenticeship. This tried and true training model is now being expanded and transformed into an innovative approach being put to the test in classrooms, labs, and boardrooms throughout the country. An unprecedented influx of more than \$265 million in federal funds to expand apprenticeship to new industries and new communities has spurred interest, energy, and activity at the state and local levels, and engaged thousands of new stakeholders in creating a modern apprenticeship infrastructure.

To harness this momentum and address ongoing workforce challenges, Jobs for the Future (JFF) is leveraging more than 30 years of experience at the intersection of education and workforce programs to establish the Center for Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning.

The Center will bring together national resources, proven and promising practices, and technical assistance in a central place to support stakeholders of all kinds in developing successful apprenticeship and other work-based learning strategies. The Center will also work to correct the misperceptions that persist about apprenticeship, showcase the advantages of work-based learning, and shine a light on these strategies as solutions for an evolving workforce.

By focusing on expanding capacity, mobilizing employers and workforce practitioners, and building support for the broad spectrum of work-based learning strategies, we can help employers, advance our economy, and get workers from all backgrounds on a pathway to successful careers.

The new Center for Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning will provide a platform for the growing community of stakeholders working in the field to easily access current information and resources, share best practices, and disseminate research. It will also pilot and deploy new solutions designed to drive the adoption and scale of critical

approaches to talent development. For those looking for more support, the Center will serve as an entry point to JFF's technical assistance to navigate issues related to apprenticeship and work-based learning strategies.

OUR TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS

JFF has a rich history working with partners to design and drive the adoption of education and career pathways leading to career advancement for those struggling to succeed in an increasingly global economy. Throughout JFF's 30-plus year history, we have been a strong advocate for and leader in promoting apprenticeship and work-based learning models. We are poised to leverage our experience, with an eye on the future of work and career challenges and opportunities.

Since 2012, JFF has been actively involved in a range of national work-based learning and apprenticeship efforts. Our leadership includes experts on both U.S. and international apprenticeship issues and provides a unique foundation of experience in the field upon which to build work-based learning, pre-apprenticeship, and apprenticeship programs and models.

We are a key participant in four current grants and contracts from the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) aimed at increasing the number of employers utilizing apprenticeship

and expanding the pool of participants to include traditionally underrepresented communities. We partner with many stakeholders to expand the scope of Registered Apprenticeship in the United States:

- > Companies
- > Industry associations
- > Secondary and postsecondary education systems
- > State and local economic and workforce development agencies
- > Organized labor

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY IN NEW INDUSTRIES AND WITH UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATIONS

More businesses, across more industries, are turning to apprenticeships and other forms of work-based learning to recruit, train, and retain a highly skilled workforce. Increasingly, employers in high-growth sectors that are driving the American economy including health care, IT, and advanced manufacturing—as well as new and emerging industries—are considering apprenticeship for the first time. The results are lauded by both employers and workforce practitioners as effective workforce strategies for adults, youth, and underrepresented populations.

Expanding opportunities for traditionally underrepresented populations including women, people of color, opportunity youth, and people with disabilities always has been a hallmark of JFF's work. As with much of JFF's other work, we will bring innovations that promote greater access to apprenticeships and work-based learning for all.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Learn more about the Center for Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning at Center4Apprenticeship.jff.org. On the site, you can sign up for updates on the Center and this exciting modern apprenticeship movement.

With easy access to the right information and support, an increasing number of employers and other stakeholders will continue to invest in apprenticeship programs that set high standards and accelerate people into more productive, higher-skilled positions. JFF's deep expertise working at the intersection of workforce and education policy and practice means the Center will be uniquely situated to expand work-based learning strategies, including Registered Apprenticeship, across the United States.

If you would like to learn how to get more involved in the Center, contact **Eric Seleznow**, eseleznow@jff.org.

Learn more, visit:

Center4Apprenticeship.jff.org



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