SA health care grantees participated in the July 2020 monthly industry discussion. Grantees continue to develop and implement creative strategies to overcome implementation challenges due to the current pandemic. During this month’s meeting SA grantees discussed:

- The use of remote alternatives to address barriers to in-person testing
- The use of external and supplemental program supports including background check vendors
- Fall semester campus re-opening plans and their impact on SA grantees. Some plans and strategies include:
  - Reopening labs so students can complete in-person lab work needed for certification
  - Implementation of a virtual/in-person instruction split. With a percentage of instruction received on campus and a percentage of instruction received virtually
  - Mandatory safety protocols including: temperature checks, protective equipment, and social distancing inside classrooms
  - Requiring pre-approval for in-person classroom meetings. In certain colleges, lab use will require an official request for usage for a pre-determined number of hours.
- Challenges in navigating the new PIRL reporting requirements including:
  - Finding time to review the new requirements for comprehension
  - Redoing previously completed reports to align with new requirements
  - Receiving more submission errors than usual
- Strategies for navigating new PIRL reporting requirements including:
  - Creating scripts to check logic rules
  - Storing data in SQL database and write SQL queries that identify errors
- Ideas around recruiting displaced workers who have an interest in starting new careers in the health care industry. Grantees in the affinity group have:
  - Worked closely with American Job Centers to identify newly dislocated workers
  - Created a taskforce for to reach out to identify apprenticeship candidates
  - Made sure student websites are up-to-date with clear information about how to access the apprenticeship program
  - Worked with hospitals to advertise programs to current hospitals workers who want to make occupation shifts