Welcome to the third edition of the Scaling Apprenticeship (SA) Newsletter. We aim to disseminate information about grantees, events, and resources relevant to the SA grant.

May marks the beginning of a new quarter for the SA technical assistance (TA) activities. Over the next three months, we will be delivering a variety of TA activities, including monthly webinars, publications focused on topics raised by grantees, as well as a peer-based working group to support grantees setting up processes and procedures for various aspects of grant activities. The SA TA team will be communicating upcoming activities in the newsletter each month. We will also be sending out invitations from the Scaling Apprenticeship mailbox.

Let your TA coach know if there are certain topics you would like to learn more about.

This month, as grantees plan and prepare for the continuing impact of the COVID-19 crisis, the newsletter features information about bringing Trauma-Informed Care into education and workforce practice. The newsletter spotlights three new grantees, highlights apprenticeship programs making news across the country, and provides a regular TA activity update.

As always, we would be delighted to hear from you, so please send us news of upcoming events. We would also like to hear of your project accomplishments or topics you would like the newsletter to cover.

Please contact us at ScalingApprenticeship@dol.gov with your feedback.

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Trauma-Informed Care and Approaches in Education and Workforce Development

The COVID-19 crisis introduces or exacerbates stress and pressure into the lives of most Americans, creating the likelihood that those already coping with trauma will feel its impact heightened. This may include many participants your program serves.

Trauma-Informed Care and approaches help educators and workforce development professionals deliver their services in a way that is respectful of trauma, and which limits the likelihood of ‘re-traumatization.’ We curated this brief list of resources to help SA grantees as they seek to support students, develop safe spaces and supportive practices.

From the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments at the Department of Education, this series of resources teaches how to weave Trauma-Informed approaches into education practices and settings.

This training package focused on assisting schools in implementing a trauma-sensitive approach.

This change manual, created by the University of Buffalo School of Social Work, Institute on Trauma-Informed Care, is also worth a look. It seeks to guide organizations and systems in planning for, implementing and sustaining a trauma-informed organizational change.

For further information on understanding trauma and trauma-informed approach, see the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's work.

Staying current with DOL’s response to the COVID-19 crisis – share your own experience

As the country continues to respond to the pandemic, make sure to check out the Employment and Training Administration (ETA)’s Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources page regularly. To help state and local workforce leaders, and other stakeholders and partners during this crisis, ETA is continuously updating resources available, including frequently asked questions (FAQs) to address grants management queries related to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

DOL’s Scaling Apprenticeship Program Office is also interested in hearing examples of how the COVID-19 public health crisis is impacting your Scaling Apprenticeship grant and/or how you are responding.

For the Program Office to respond to the disruption you are experiencing, we need to understand it better.

You can share specifics – the more quantified the better – in your Quarterly Narrative Report (QNR), during coaching calls or peer calls, by communicating with your FPO, or by simply sending an email to the Scaling Apprenticeship mailbox (copying your FPO).

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Scaling Apprenticeship TA Updates

Webinars

May 28 Webinar: Conducting Remote Monitoring Reviews Scaling This webinar will highlight the benefits of remotely monitoring subrecipients; explain what remote monitoring is; outline things to consider when determining grants/grantees to monitor remotely, including risk assessment; and provide tools/resources/best practices from practitioners in the field.

IRAP General Overview Webinar
In case you missed it, DOL hosted a webinar with a general overview of the key elements of the Final Rule and information regarding the next steps for those interested in Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Programs. View the webinar here.

Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program Webinar for Prospective Standards Recognition Entities
DOL also recently hosted a webinar on the IRAP final rule, which establishes a process for the Department of Labor’s Office of Apprenticeship Administrator to recognize qualified third-party entities, known as Standards Recognition Entities (SREs). SREs will, in turn, evaluate and recognize IRAPs in accordance with the standards established by the Department’s new rule. View the recording here.

ASE-SAE Webinar on Equity Learnings from the Innovation Cohort focused on Increasing Diversity of Apprenticeship Participants
The purpose of this webinar is share the learnings, resources and other information from the Innovation Cohort focused on Increasing Diversity of Apprenticeship Participants with grantees. The webinar will take place on June 4 from 3 to 4 PM ET. Please register here.

Implementing Grants in Times of Virtual Learning and Workspaces
This webinar will focus on strategies for apprenticeship in the times of virtual work and worksite closures. It will build on the April 20th peer call to deliver a structured session with leading grantees. Be on the lookout for the webinar on our community on the Workforce GPS website.

Products and resources

Apprenticeship Resource Page: Outreach and Participant Recruitment
Be on the lookout for Outreach & Participant Recruitment Resources. They are aimed at grantees working to improve engagement of apprentices on our community on the Workforce GPS website.

Scaling Apprenticeship New Project Director Tip Sheet
Staff turnover is a common experience for grantees. It can lead to a slowdown in grant progress and activities. The learning curve is often steep for new project directors (PDs). This resource is designed to help new PDs transition as they get acclimated to their grant. View here.

Apprenticeship In The News

Here are a few news items highlighting the reach of apprenticeship programs across the country.

Lorain County Community College preps the post-COVID 19 workforce (Crain's Cleveland Business)
Describes how Scaling Apprenticeship grantee Lorain County Community College is working with corporate partners.

The Department of Labor Takes Small Steps Toward Expanding Apprenticeships (Forbes)
Discusses how IRAPs could help bring apprenticeships into the mainstream as an alternative to a traditional college education.

Purdue Cyber Apprenticeship Program launches student registration portal (Purdue)
Announces the launch of its registration portal for prospective candidates seeking an online education and on-the-job cybersecurity training.
Grantee Spotlight: Getting to know your peers

In this issue, we feature three new grantees: County College of Morris in Advanced Manufacturing, Columbus State Community College in the IT & Cybersecurity Sector, and Bergen Community College in Health Care. Find information on all 23 Scaling Apprenticeship grantees on our community website.

**County College of Morris**

CareerAdvance USA is building a comprehensive, advanced manufacturing (AM) apprenticeship support model, based on the AM Competency Model. It incorporates evidence-based, earn-and-learn strategies, such as industry-driven curriculum and portable, industry-recognized credentials. The project is piloting three approaches to apprenticeship training, which it will assess for relative effectiveness and fit with different employment contexts: 1) Traditional RAP; 2) modified academic internship combining associate degree coursework with paid, supervised, on-the-job training; and 3) rigorous, boot camp, pre-apprenticeship training focused on entry-level skills.

**Columbus State Community College**

The Flexible Learning Expressway for Technology (FLEXTech) Apprenticeship Consortium seeks to create a national model for flexible apprenticeships in Information Technology and IT-related industries. FLEXTech offers two tracks. One is an emerging workforce apprenticeship track that has adapted CSCC’s Modern Manufacturing Work Study model and combines college curriculum with part-time paid employment in a five-semester program. The other is an incumbent apprenticeship track that builds on the model in the data analytics, cybersecurity, and software development fields. This model features on-demand, stackable, IT learning modules collaboratively developed with employer partners to re-skill current technicians for the changing IT environment.

**Bergen Community College**

The New Jersey Scaling Apprenticeships in Health Professions (NJ HealthWorks) project is developing and expanding competency-based apprenticeships in 14 high-growth, health care sector occupations. Building on a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) apprenticeship program operated by partners, NJ HealthWorks is expanding both that apprenticeship and eight additional RAPs across the state. In addition to implementing competency-based instructional methods, the project is engaging Bergen Community College’s Interdisciplinary Center for Simulation to offer employer partners a variety of instructional methodologies supporting health education.

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