Executive Summary

Early Lessons from H-1B Scaling Apprenticeships Through Sector-Based Strategies Grantees for Apprenticeships: Closing the Skills Gap Grantees

Date: 8/20/20
Moderator(s): Zodie Makonnen & Ayreen Cadwallader
Speaker(s): Susan Rusch, Denise Zieske, Dr. Geanie Umberger, Audrey Webb, Lavon Nelson

This H-1B Scaling Apprenticeship Through Sector-Based Strategies (SA) webinar provided an opportunity for H-1B Apprenticeships: Closing the Skills Gap (CSG) grantees to hear from SA grantees who have navigated the first year of their grant. Presenters discussed lessons learned during implementation with a focus on aspects they wished they had known when beginning their projects. Participants received information about both the SA and CSG grant programs followed by an overview of the presenting grantees, including the sector focus and emerging practices of each of the grantees. After the overview, the panel of participants shared their implementation experience and insights. The webinar provided:

- Information on challenges CSG grantees may face in early in implementation
- Examples of creative solutions from SA grantees that meet the needs of business and provide a benefit to employers, partners, and/or participants of apprenticeship programs
- Highlights of innovative practices adopted to accelerate the expansion of apprenticeships and/or improve internal processes to advance the program

Zodie Makonnen and Ayreen Cadwallader provided grant program overviews and then Sue Rusch facilitated a conversation among Denise Zieske (State University of New York), Dr. Geanie Umberger (Purdue University), Audrey Webb (Alabama County Community College), Lavon Nelson (Illinois Community College Board) as they shared their strategies for overcoming challenges faced in their first year of implementation.