






APPRENTICESHIPS FOR AMERICA

Member E-digest: October 17th, 2023

AFA Working Groups on Registration, Advocacy, and Communications

AFA is excited to relaunch its member-driven working groups this fall. These groups will help define key policy positions of the organization and strengthen our outreach efforts. The schedule and agenda for the working groups follows:

	 Registration Reform Working Group	 External Communications Working Group	 Advocacy and Lobbying Working Group
Agenda	Preview a forthcoming AFA report on registration and help prepare AFA to offer comments to the US Department of Labor during the expected public comment period on apprenticeship registration.	Advise on strengthening AFA's outreach and engagement with workforce intermediaries as well as key messaging around public policies to support apprenticeship intermediaries.	Advise AFA on the development a model state bill and federal initiatives. This group will also help in drafting AFA position papers on Youth Apprenticeship and Pay for Apprenticeship.
1st Meeting	11/7 at 2:00 ET	11/8 at 2:00 ET	11/6 at 2:00 ET
2nd Meeting	11/28 at 2:00 ET	11/29 at 2:00 ET	11/30 at 2:00 ET
3rd Meeting	12/19 at 2:00 ET	12/20 at 2:00 ET	12/18 at 2:00 ET

Members who have previously signed up for a working group, should already have received invitations. If you would like to join us, feel free to contact John Colborn (john.colborn@apprenticeshipsforamerica.org) and be sure to specify Working Group in the email subject.

Conferences and Events

The AFA team will be out and about this fall. Be sure to connect with us at these upcoming events:

- [Council for Adult and Experiential Learning \(CAEL\) Conference](#) – November 8-10 in Baltimore
- [New America's Activating Apprenticeship at Community Colleges](#) – November 13-14 in Charleston, SC
- [National Skills Coalition Skills in the States Forum](#) – November 16-17 in Baltimore



National Apprenticeship Week - Our time to shine

With NAW fast approaching November 13-19, we want to help promote your events and help highlight the great work being done around the country. If you are planning an open house, briefing, or other event, let us know. **Send any event plans to Mary Ann Lisanti** at maryann@apprenticeshipsforamerica.org. Reference NAW in the subject line.

Apprenticeships in the News

The [Biden-Harris Administration launches the Advanced Manufacturing Workforce Sprint](#), a nationwide effort to create a skilled workforce for advanced manufacturing jobs. Among the initiatives is an Advanced Manufacturing Registered Apprenticeship Accelerator Series that will offer manufacturers support in creating apprenticeship programs.

[ApprenticeOhio provides nearly \\$1.6M](#) to 75 ApprenticeOhio employers and sponsors through a year-long training and tool reimbursement grant program. This assistance helped 698 apprentices receive training.

[First lady Jill Biden visits Dutchess County, New York](#), making scheduled stops in Fishkill and Poughkeepsie, participating in events and remarks focused on education, childcare, and workforce development in the region, including providing remarks to Early Childhood Education apprentices.

[MiraCosta College has received two grants for more than \\$1.6 million](#) from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to advance biotechnology and biomanufacturing education for diverse, underrepresented community college and high school students. Programs will offer internship, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship experiences in biomanufacturing, targeting underrepresented groups in STEM.

[Department of Labor and Industry announces Labor Education Advancement Program grant recipients](#). Twelve organizations across Minnesota will receive funding to facilitate the participation and retention of people of color, Indigenous people and women in registered apprenticeship through the Labor Education Advancement Program (LEAP) grant.

Apprenticeship programs are highlighted during Apprenticeship Appreciation Month in an [PennLive guest editorial by Joe Kline](#), emphasizing their essential role in bridging the skills gap and promoting economic growth, and the need for increased investment and innovation in these programs to meet the demands of a changing job landscape.

