



**APPRENTICESHIPS  
FOR AMERICA**

## Member E-digest: November 14th, 2023

### National Apprenticeship Week Spotlight

It's National Apprenticeship Week! You can find national events and events in your community at <https://www.apprenticeship.gov/national-apprenticeship-week/events>.

Be sure to join Apprenticeships for America in a national webinar jointly sponsored with JPMorgan Chase and Workforce Matters on November 16, 3:00 pm ET. The webinar will include an exciting announcement from JPMC of its commitment to growing apprenticeship in the United States and will feature several AFA members as well as remarks from AFA board member Ryan Craig. You can sign up for this webinar at the following link:

<https://marketing.workforce-matters.org/apprenticeshipnov23>



### Transatlantic Collaborations

Earlier this month, Apprenticeships for America was pleased to host apprenticeship practitioners from Canada and England as part of an exploration of transatlantic collaboration and exchange. Participants joined the AFA team in attending events at the Urban Institute, meeting with US Department of Labor representatives, and visiting apprenticeship efforts at Prince George's County Public Schools, Howard College, CityWorksDC, IEC Chesapeake, and IBEW26/NECA Joint Atlantic Training Commission in Baltimore.



### Policy Engagement Dinner



In partnership with the Progressive Policy Institute, Apprenticeships for America hosted a dinner with federal policy makers from Congress and the Biden administration. Leading off the conversation was AFA Board member, Ryan Craig, who discussed his new book, *Apprentice Nation*. Also in attendance were AFA board members Robert Lerman and James Rosapepe and AFA members Multiverse, Franklin Apprenticeships, and the Business Roundtable.

## Maryland Apprenticeship 2030 Commission

To scale up apprenticeships to international levels, Maryland launched the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission. The Commission is charged with developing a plan for Maryland to meet its goal of 60,000 registered apprentices by 2030 and to meet the target that 45% of all high school students participate in School-to-Work apprenticeships, as envisioned in the state's school reform law, *Blueprint for Maryland's Future*.

Chaired by Jacob Hsu, former CEO of Catalyte, an IT apprenticeship intermediary, the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission was created by the legislature earlier this year with strong support from MD Governor Wes Moore. Other members include four employer executives, four labor leaders, four Senators, four House members, and state agency executives. An initial report is due by the end of this year. The Commission will continue to meet, with final recommendations expected at the end of 2024. Click [here](#) for more details on its work.

## Apprenticeships in the News



### National Apprenticeship Initiatives

[The Chronicle reports on Apprenticeships for America as major player in a transformative movement](#), backed by organizations like New America and Strada Education Foundation, to reshape the landscape of apprenticeships in the United States.

The [New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development is offering \\$5 million in funding](#) through the Growing Apprenticeship in Nontraditional Sectors (GAINS) grant program. The program supports the development of new and existing apprenticeship programs in high-growth industries. Proposals must provide new apprentices with a starting wage of at least \$17 per hour. The deadline to apply is December 8, 2023.

Economic development strategy [Baltimore Together aims to build a stronger workforce system](#) by integrating the school and labor systems and advocating for greater apprenticeship and employment opportunities for youth. It also encourages employers to invest in the future of young people by providing them with opportunities for apprenticeships and employment.

## Challenges and Strategies in Expanding Apprenticeships

[A study by New America found that community colleges face challenges in expanding apprenticeship opportunities](#), such as finding funding, building partnerships, and marketing apprenticeships to students. Successful strategies for these critical institutions include using a mix of funding sources, developing strong relationships with employers, and tailoring apprenticeship programs to meet the needs of local businesses and students.



## Government Funding and Support



[CISA is giving \\$1.5 million to South Memphis Renewal Community Development Corporation and Per Scholas](#) to help underserved communities develop cybersecurity skills. Grant recipients plan to use the funding to build on its capacity to deliver training, apprenticeship opportunities and jobs to launch new, diverse, cybersecurity careers across the region.

Governor Roy Cooper announced that [North Carolina was selected as a partner in the EVeryone Charging Forward™ program](#), a \$30-million, 10-year initiative of the Siemens Foundation. Working with the North Carolina Community College System and local community colleges, NCBCE will support the design of training and curriculum, and develop pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship programs in EV charging installation and maintenance and manufacturing occupations.

[The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity is offering grants to organizations](#) that can help English language learners and individuals without a high school diploma or its equivalent enroll in and complete Registered Apprenticeship programs. The total funding available is \$960,000. Proposals are due December 18, 2023.

## Legislation and Policy Developments

[Senator Markey reintroduces the Offshore Wind Jobs and Opportunity Act](#), aiming to create union jobs in coastal communities through apprenticeship programs and education initiatives, aligning with the Biden administration's offshore wind goals. The bill has industry and labor support.

[President Biden advances vision for world class passenger rail](#) by delivering billions in new funding. Among new initiatives is Amtrak's job creation and workforce development through agreements with North America's Building Trades Unions, ensuring fair wages and benefits on construction projects. The Hudson River Tunnel project alone is projected to generate 72,000 jobs, with a strong emphasis on union partnerships and apprenticeship programs, aligning with broader federal investments in rail safety and supply chain upgrades across the United States. Amtrak is investing more than \$50 million in local workforce development and community investments, including



pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs to ensure that local workers can access these jobs.

### And finally... Celebrating Progress and Achievements



Olivia Hally, the [first apprentice prosecutor under Connecticut's new program, was warmly sworn in as Deputy Assistant State's Attorney](#), marking a historic moment for the Division of Criminal Justice. The apprenticeship initiative, enabled by recent legislation, reflects a commitment to providing aspiring lawyers with hands-on training, mentorship, and an early opportunity to serve the public in the legal profession.

Our next edition will be first week of December. Wishing everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

