

September 2022

Providing Access to Nonpartisan Voter Registration Information Through the Workforce System

One of the most powerful tools an individual and a worker has is their voice, and voting is an important way that workers have used their voice to empower themselves and their communities.

Don't miss this [**message from the U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Marty Walsh**](#) on the importance of voter registration as part of the labor market and civic participation. In this brief video, Secretary Walsh emphasizes the Department of Labor's focus on empowering all workers through voting in their communities. He also highlights the vital role of the public workforce system in enhancing voting opportunities for participants and helping them register to vote.

National Voter Registration Day

National Voter Registration Day On September 20th, National Voter Registration Day will mark its 10th Anniversary. This nonpartisan holiday was first observed in 2012 and has successfully seen the registration of 4.7 million voters since its inception. The holiday seeks to create awareness of non-partisan voter registration opportunities to reach many voters who may not register otherwise.

The public workforce system can play an important role in furthering the goals of the National Voter Registration Act by facilitating non-partisan voter registration activities. The U.S. Department of Labor's [**guidance**](#) and [**technical assistance**](#) provides more details on how you can help jobseekers register to vote, and how American Job Centers can become designated voter registration agencies.

In 2019, Indiana took steps to improve civic engagement and voter participation by issuing a memorandum to remind WorkOne (AJC) staff of the requirements and procedures to offer voter registration to customers. AJC

staff provide the Indiana Department of Workforce Development Voter Registration Information sheet and the state Voter Registration Application. Indiana AJCs also provide links to voter registration materials on public computers, including information on registering to vote, checking on voter status, voting locations, and election security. AJC staff are trained to aid customers where requested and to ask individuals about voter registration during interactions. Some AJCs also provide paper copies of the voter registration form and have processes in place for delivery. AJCs are also evaluating how to increase the visibility and awareness of voter registration signage and information.

Visit [vote.gov](https://www.vote.gov) to learn how to [register to vote](#), locate your [local polling place](#), or [find voter ID requirements](#).

Career Pathways

Improving the skills and credentials of the American workforce is essential for successful employment in the many industries that are seeking skilled workers. This month, we are highlighting Career Pathways resources, events, and tools that support learning and employability skills with the goal of placing individuals in high-demand jobs.

The WorkforceGPS [Career Pathways Community](#) helps workforce development leaders, practitioners, and policymakers expand state and local career pathways. This collection of resources will enhance your knowledge, skills, and expertise in building effective career pathway systems. New to Career Pathways? A perfect place to begin is with [The Original Career Pathways Toolkit: A Guide for System Development](#) and its companion, the [Career Pathways Toolkit: An Enhanced Guide and Workbook for System Development](#).

We'd love to hear from you if you have new or exciting Career Pathways resources, best practices, or success stories to share with your colleagues. Please send us an email at support@workforcegps.org.

Registered Apprenticeships to Address Teacher Workforce Challenges and Shortages

As America's economy continues to recover, it is essential that a robust and sustainable teacher workforce is in place to educate and support the country's next generation of workers. Yet many local education agencies (LEAs) and charter schools face challenges in attracting and retaining teachers and school staff as the demand continues to increase. While the demand for teachers in critical areas existed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the past two years have exacerbated these talent shortages.

Apprenticeship is one way to help address the talent pipeline shortage. States, LEAs, and charter schools can take steps to **provide affordable high-quality pathways into the profession**. The Secretaries of the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Education issued a **call to action** for states to:

1. Establish high quality paid apprenticeship programs.
2. Increase collaboration across workforce and education systems.
3. Pay teachers a competitive wage.

For more details, read the **joint letter** from the Secretaries.

National Apprenticeship Week

This year's National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) will be a momentous occasion, as 2022 marks 85 years since the National Apprenticeship Act (NAA) first established Registered Apprenticeship (RA) as a national initiative. This milestone for the NAA will be impetus to make NAW bigger and better than ever. Although the event is only a few months away (Nov. 14 -20), there is still time to coordinate with program partners to plan a celebration of this significant anniversary.

Start planning now for National Apprenticeship Week: NOV 14 – 20, 2022

- Register your event [here](#).
- **Submit your proclamation** to be included on the official NAW map.
- Host a NAW event: accelerators, job fairs, recruiting fairs, employer facility tours. Be creative!
- Looking for ideas and resources to plan your event? Find them [here](#).
- Find inspiration in [these highlights from NAW 2021](#).

FEATURED CONTENT

SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

[Career Pathways Descriptive and Analytical Project](#)

JANUARY 06, 2022

[Designing and Delivering Career Pathways at Community Colleges](#)

APRIL 19, 2022

[Overview Webinar: Providing Access to Voting Through the American Job Center Network](#)

AUGUST 01, 2022

[120-Day Cybersecurity Apprenticeship Sprint](#)

UPCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS

OCTOBER 13, 2022

[DOLâ€™s Career Pathways Evidence Coffee Break: Video Screening and Q&A with Researchers](#)

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

[WIOA Demographic Data Quality Technical Assistance \(TA\)](#)

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

[Leveraging Data to Align Workforce System Reach with Community Needs](#)

OCTOBER 12, 2022

[2022 Refresher: WIOA Annual Statewide Performance Narrative Report \(Titles I and III\)](#)

RECENT PUBLIC EVENTS

JUNE 17, 2022

[Tools You Can Use: DOL's New Career Trajectories and Occupational Transitions Dashboard](#)

AUGUST 09, 2022

[Summit Sequels: Advancing Equity and Job Quality through Industry Partnerships](#)

AUGUST 11, 2022

[Training Toolkit For Serving Individuals with Substance Use Disorder](#)

SEPTEMBER 07, 2022

[Understanding Grant Modifications â€“ Pathway Home 3](#)

AUGUST 10, 2022

[RESEA Peer Learning](#)

AUGUST 18, 2022

[Supporting Youth Mental Health in the Workforce System](#)

AUGUST 31, 2022

[Supporting Women in the Workplace - Department of Labor Webinar](#)

FEATURED CONTENT

AUGUST 01, 2022

[H-1B Rural Healthcare Programmatic Technical Assistance Resources](#)

MARCH 18, 2022

[Bergen Community College: Success Coaches](#)

AUGUST 02, 2022

[American Job Center Service Delivery in Rural Areas](#)

JULY 06, 2022

[Create Effective Outreach Strategies for Farmworkers, Employers and Stakeholders](#)

AUGUST 01, 2022

[Opioid Crisis Strategies and DOL Research](#)

UPCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS

AUGUST 10, 2022

[RESEA Peer Learning](#)

AUGUST 11, 2022

Training Toolkit For Serving Individuals with Substance Use Disorder

RECENT PUBLIC EVENTS

JULY 06, 2022

[New National Dislocated Worker Grant Program Guidance](#)

JULY 07, 2022

[How to Use the Newly Launched ETA Advisory Website](#)

JULY 14, 2022

[Reasonable Accommodations in the Workplace](#)

JULY 21, 2022

[Apprenticeships as a Career Pathway for Youth and Young Adults](#)

JULY 27, 2022

[Connecting with Local Youth Workforce Systems-Stories from the Field](#)

Every state has rural areas, and providing workforce services to these areas is challenging due to long distances and, in many cases, a lack of support services and infrastructure like broadband.

This month, we are highlighting successful practices, programs, and services in rural areas. We have created a resource page that provides you with quick access to these [resources](#). We'd love to hear from you if you have a new or exciting approach to share with your colleagues. Send us an email at support@workforcegps.org.

DOL Announces Funding to States to Create Jobs, Provide Employment Training, and Services in Critical Industries

As the overall economy continues to rebound from the effects of the pandemic, workers—especially women, Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), people with disabilities, lower-wage workers, and workers from other historically marginalized communities – continue to face persistent challenges with finding quality jobs.

To better equip these workers for high-quality jobs, the U.S. Department of Labor announced up to \$140 million in available Quality Jobs, Equity, Strategy, and Training (QUEST) national dislocated worker grants to states, outlying areas, and Indian tribal governments. These grants are designed to strengthen the public workforce system's capacity to develop job opportunities and employment training and services for America's unemployed and underemployed workers.

Successful applicants will implement projects that help underserved workers develop career and economic resilience through their commitment to executing the following activities:

- Develop or expand strategic partnerships.
- Community and participant outreach.
- Business engagement.
- Employment and training activities.
- Create disaster-relief employment to address the health, employment, and social effects of COVID-19.

[Learn more about the QUEST National Dislocated Worker Grants and apply.](#)

Exploring Rural YouthBuild Programs Podcast Series

In the [Exploring Rural YouthBuild Programs Podcast Series](#), YouthBuild explores the dynamics rural YouthBuild programs experience during program planning, implementation, and program sustainability efforts. In the first three episodes, Federal Project Officers, Ronald Vargas and Marjorie Fong interview two directors of rural YouthBuild programs. Eliska Champagne-Veselka, YouthBuild USA TA Coach, joins the final episode to discuss strategic approaches to incorporating registered apprenticeships into YouthBuild programs.

The podcasts focus on the common factors affecting service delivery--funding, staffing, geographic accessibility of services, training, employment, technological capacity, partnerships, and population.

YouthBuild Suite of Tools

[YouthBuild](#) is a community-based pre-apprenticeship program that provides job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth ages 16-24 who have previously dropped out of high school. [A Toolkit to Help YouthBuild Program](#)

[Navigate Workforce Systems](#) has been developed to offer an overview of workforce systems so you can learn how to navigate the systems better.

This toolkit offers resources to help YouthBuild programs learn more about:

- Functions of the workforce system at the federal, state, and local levels
- Ways to engage at all levels of the workforce system
- Mutual benefits of healthy partnerships

- Strategies to overcome challenge areas
- Opportunities for partnerships in addition to those with the American Job Center and Workforce Development Boards

Join the National DWG Community of Practice Today!

Get the most current grant updates, resources, and events when you log into WFGPS and join the [National Dislocated Worker Grants \(DWG\) Community of Practice.](#)

The National Dislocated Worker Grant (DWG) program provides supplemental time-limited funding assistance in response to major economic dislocations or other events that cause significant impacts and exceed the capacity of existing formula funds and other relevant resources. DWGs enable states and communities to respond to and recover from large, unexpected dislocation events such as mass layoff or natural or other disasters. The DWG virtual community is designed to provide grant recipients with a place to interact with other grantees and to access the latest program technical assistance and resources designed to support your successful grant. Join us for the upcoming event: [Training Toolkit for Serving Individuals with Substance Use Disorder.](#)

Thank You!

Sincerely,

- The WorkforceGPS Team
Helping You Navigate to Success Today

U.S. Department of Labor
Employment & Training Administration