



DEPARTMENT OF

LABOR

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Guam receives another \$300K registered apprenticeship grant

Hagåtña, Guam — The Guam Department of Labor is bolstering its top-level apprenticeship model with a 4th grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The “Building State Capacity to expand apprenticeship through Innovation” grant supports the expansion of Guam’s Registered Apprenticeship Program.

Labor has always seen apprenticeship as a driving force for developing a well-rounded labor pool. Guam applied for the Tier I: Baseline Goals and Activities grant of \$300,000 with the objective of strengthening the apprenticeship infrastructure, creating awareness with system alignment and partnerships, and formalizing data systems among workforce and education programs.

“To have a robust apprenticeship program, we have to make sure our infrastructure is in place,” said Labor Director David Dell’Isola. “We aim to create even greater awareness about our registered apprenticeship programs with employers, and also to work with postsecondary and secondary schools. We want to start our apprenticeship programs in high schools.”

The Department looks to expand Guam Registered Apprenticeship into all industries, and this grant will help create more partnerships, increase program completion rates and shrink the skills gap employers face when filling vacancies.

“The U.S. Department of Labor has already stated that Guam leads the nation per capita in apprenticeship. When we apply for the next grant, we’ll be even stronger,” Dell’Isola said.

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Apprenticeship is a proven program for job preparation that combines paid on-the-job training with related classroom education that helps increase workers’ skill sets and wages.

The Guam Registered Apprenticeship Program is a tax incentivized program to entice employers to join registered apprenticeship. Local businesses who join receive a 50% tax break of the eligible training costs paid or incurred but the business to train their apprentices. These include direct wages of apprentices, direct fringe benefits such as medical and dental insurance, journeyman’s wages for the on-the-job training, instructor costs, both academic and trade theory, training costs such as books and tuition, and even personal protective equipment required for the job and for the training.

In 2019, The Guam Registered Apprenticeship Program Tax Credit totaled \$4.4 million dollars.

Guam is one of 42 states and territories that received more than \$80 million in this round of grants to expand registered apprenticeship, and Guam received the set allotment for territories.

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