

# IOWA APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM



Registered apprenticeships are a proven approach to preparing workers for in-demand jobs and meeting the needs of business for a highly skilled workforce that can innovate and adapt. The Iowa Apprenticeship Program is available to increase the number of registered apprentices in Iowa by providing training grants to registered programs. The program is administered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) in coordination with the United States Department of Labor (DOL), Office of Apprenticeship (OA).

A registered apprenticeship is an employer-driven model that combines on-the-job learning with related classroom instruction to increase the apprentice's skill level and wages. It's a flexible training strategy that can be customized to meet the needs of every business, and it can be integrated into current training and HR development strategies. Apprenticeship training is an "earn while you learn" model because apprentices receive a paycheck while learning on the job. About 400,000 apprentices participate every year in about 20,000 registered apprenticeship programs across the country. In Iowa, there are already over 600 registered programs training more than 8,000 apprentices.



## APPRENTICESHIPS AREN'T ONLY FOR THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES

Although apprenticeships are often thought of as a training model for construction-related industries, the application is much more extensive. There are apprentices in over 1,000 occupations, including careers in healthcare, advanced manufacturing, energy, transportation and logistics and more. In Iowa, efforts are underway to explore new apprenticeship programs in information technology, value-added agriculture and even winemaking. The possibilities of this effective training model are endless.

### BENEFITS FOR BUSINESS

- Higher productivity
- Highly skilled employees
- Reduced turnover costs

### BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES

- Increased skills
- Higher wages
- National credentials
- Career advancement



## IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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## IOWA APPRENTICESHIP ACT

The Iowa Apprenticeship Act was passed in 2014, increasing the available funding to \$3 million for training grants awarded to “sponsors” to conduct and maintain an apprenticeship program. Only registered apprenticeship programs that meet DOL/OA specific requirements and standards are eligible. A sponsor or lead sponsor (a trade organization, labor organization, employee organization or other incorporated entity representing a group of registered apprenticeship sponsors) may apply for an IEDA training grant. Funds awarded may only be used to help cover the cost of conducting and maintaining an apprenticeship training program.

## TRAINING GRANTS

Applications are accepted from any Iowa-registered DOL/OA sponsor or lead sponsor and are due by February 1 for the previous training year (January through December).

The amount of training grants available is based on the statutory formula established under Iowa Code Chapter 15B based upon “contact hours.” Contact hours are determined based on an applicant’s combined total of apprentices and related technical instruction (RTI) hours for the most recent training year. The training grant is based on the applicant’s proportionate share of the statewide total of all contact hours.

For more information on the training grants or to apply, visit: [iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/apprenticeship](http://iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/apprenticeship)



## BECOME A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP SPONSOR

Learn how becoming an apprenticeship sponsor can prepare your company to build and sustain a high-skilled workforce, now and in the future. Visit the Department of Labor’s Office of Apprenticeship website to learn more: [dol.gov/apprenticeship/employers.htm](http://dol.gov/apprenticeship/employers.htm).

To learn more:

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For more information on the apprenticeship program, contact the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA)

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