America’s Registered Apprenticeship system is gaining unprecedented momentum as the go-to talent development strategy for businesses and workers across all industries. Currently, there are over 500,000 apprentices in the United States. Domestic and international employers are increasingly turning to Registered Apprenticeship as a workforce solution that provides American workers with the 21st century skills that today’s industries require. Through historic bipartisan support the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) has invested over $90 million to double and diversify Registered Apprenticeship programs across the country. Through the State Apprenticeship Expansion Grants, the Department has awarded $50.5 million to help states develop and implement comprehensive strategies to support Registered Apprenticeship expansion.

To support state apprenticeship expansion and diversification strategies, the DOL Office of Apprenticeship is making technical assistance available to all grantees. Through these important technical assistance activities, states will have the opportunity to participate in peer-to-peer learning with other states, connect with coaches and subject matter experts, leverage additional resources, and align their efforts with other ApprenticeshipUSA activities.

**State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant Goals**

The goals of the State Apprenticeship Expansion Grants are to:

- Assist states in advancement of Registered Apprenticeship as a workforce development strategy and post-secondary education career pathway that maintains the nation’s strong, adaptable, and highly-skilled workforce.

- Support integrated, state-wide apprenticeship strategies and state capacity to engage industry and meet the demand for new programs in both traditional and non-traditional industries such as IT, Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing, Building Trades, Cybersecurity, and Business Services.

- Catalyze state innovations to significantly increase Registered Apprenticeship opportunities for all American workers, particularly underrepresented populations in apprenticeship including opportunity youth, women, communities of color, Native Americans, and persons with disabilities, and taking steps to facilitate their successful completion of apprenticeship programs.

Technical assistance activities will be designed to help states achieve these goals and support the effective implementation of the Registered Apprenticeship strategies they’ve identified to drive their expansion and diversification efforts.
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

Technical assistance will be provided through the Office of Apprenticeship. Maher & Maher, in coordination with the Office of Apprenticeship and each grantee’s Federal Project Officer in Regional Offices, will provide support that begins during the critical start-up phase and continues to help position grantees for sustained success through the life of the grant and beyond. State Apprenticeship Expansion Grantees will have access to the following technical assistance activities to help ensure their projects offer U.S. workers increased access to Registered Apprenticeship opportunities that lead to long-term, well-paying careers:

🔗 COACHING

The Office of Apprenticeship is dedicating a coach to work with each state. The coaches (senior workforce professionals and former practitioners) will work directly with states to identify support needs, to connect grantees with subject matter experts and resources, and to facilitate peer-to-peer meetings. Coaches will also assist in identifying and addressing common challenges across states.

🔗 PEER LEARNING

States will participate in peer learning communities and virtual events to share knowledge of apprenticeship strategies. These activities will provide states the opportunity to learn from each other’s successes and challenges to capture promising practices and innovative approaches to expand and diversify apprenticeship programs.

🔗 GRANTEE CONFERENCE

A conference will be held for all states with the State Apprenticeship Expansion grants in Washington, DC. The conference will give grantees the chance to share best practices and build knowledge. By engaging with other grantees, and practitioners with successful apprenticeship models in other states, the event will provide an opportunity to troubleshoot challenges and brainstorm solutions to accelerate successful apprenticeship strategies.

🔗 RESOURCES AND PROMISING PRACTICES

Through this technical assistance project, best practices and tools to expand apprenticeship and accelerate the adoption of quality and innovative apprenticeship programs will be collected and disseminated. Information will be shared via a variety of media, including the ApprenticeshipUSA Community of Practice, virtual events, and a monthly e-newsletter.