

**Increasing Opportunity through Registered Apprenticeships:  
Opportunities and Benefits for Individuals and Employers**

**JOBS**

**WHY CULTIVATE REGIONAL  
APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE?**

**ACCESS**

**WHAT IS REGISTERED  
APPRENTICESHIP?**

Registered Apprenticeships offer training to workers who earn an income while they learn new job skills under the direction of a senior worker in the public and private sectors.

It is a time-tested employment model established by the Fitzgerald Act, also known as the National Apprenticeship Act, in 1937. The Act created a national apprenticeship system in the United States. It also gave the U.S. Secretary of Labor the authority over apprenticeships.

Visit the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) website for more information:

[www.doleta.gov/OA](http://www.doleta.gov/OA)

The telecommunications sector is at the epicenter of growth and innovation, making it a massive employer in need of a workforce that can easily adapt to its demands and learn new skills.

WIAAI is bridging the employment gap by exposing underrepresented populations to vocations that support and strengthen America's wireless infrastructure.

TIRAP is a competency-based apprenticeship program for occupations in the Information and Communications Technology sector. Formally established two years ago, TIRAP has credentialed six positions with plans for more. TIRAP is committed to increasing gender, racial, ethnic and other demographic diversity and inclusion in apprenticeships, where certain populations have been underrepresented.

**WIAAI CREATES REGISTERED  
APPRENTICESHIPS**

In 2016, the National Urban League (NUL), Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC), and Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA) launched the Wireless Infrastructure Apprenticeship Access Initiative (WIAAI) through its contract with the Department of Labor's ApprenticeshipUSA Investments initiative to connect unemployed and underemployed minorities with Registered Apprenticeships in telecommunications infrastructure.

WIAAI is partnering with seven NUL Regional Affiliates to cultivate apprenticeship opportunities in Chicago, Illinois; Rochester, New York; the Central Carolinas; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Houston, Texas; Hampton Roads, Virginia; and Seattle, Washington.



**Registered Apprenticeships  
Benefit *Everyone***

**Through Jobs Such As:**

- Telecommunications Tower Technician
- Wireless Technician
- Telecom Tower & Antenna Line Lead
- Telecom Tower & Antenna Line Foreman
- Telecom Tower Construction Lead
- Telecom Tower Construction Foreman

**Individuals**

- Earn a living wage while learning new skills
- Get an education without student loan debt
- Guaranteed a job at the end of the program
- People of color, women, people with disabilities, and underemployed workers are on the path to quality, middle-class careers

**Employers**

- Provides a ready-made recruitment model
- Creates a reliable pipeline of skilled talent
- Increases productivity
- Generates profit
- Strengthens the capacity to compete in the global economy

## WHO ARE THE WIAAI PARTNERS, AND WHAT ROLE DO THEY PLAY?

### MULTICULTURAL MEDIA, TELECOM AND INTERNET COUNCIL (MMTC)

MMTC is a nonprofit organization with a 30-year track record of increasing diversity in media and telecommunications access, ownership, and employment.

MMTC develops and implements the curriculum, technical assistance, and training and marketing material for DOL-approved occupations under the WIAAI Consortium, and conducts program evaluation.

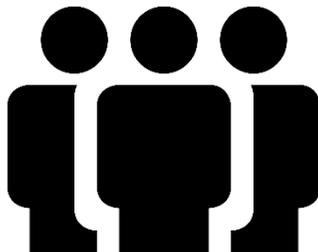
<http://mmtconline.org>

### NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE (NUL)

**NUL is a historic civil rights organization dedicated to economic empowerment in order to elevate the standard of living in historically underserved communities.**

**NUL serves as the WIAAI lead partner and will cultivate apprenticeship opportunities in the areas of seven of its Regional Affiliates.**

[www.nul.org](http://www.nul.org)



### WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE ASSOCIATION (WIA)

WIA is the principal trade association representing over 230 companies that build, own, upgrade, and maintain the U.S. wireless communications network.

WIA's role in the Consortium is to provide access to Registered Apprenticeships through identified and committed employers.

<http://wia.org>

**Registered Apprenticeships benefit states, regions, and communities by:**

Creating a stable and diverse workforce • Strengthening local, state, and regional economies.

**To learn more about Registered Apprenticeships in telecommunications infrastructure, plan to attend:**

### WIA's Wireless Infrastructure Show and Supplier Diversity Summit

**May 22-25, 2017  
Orlando, FL**

*The Wireless Infrastructure Show is the premier national event for mobile network solutions. Features nearly 3000 attendees, 150+ exhibits, world-class keynotes, unparalleled networking and collaboration in a focused environment. One of WIA's most popular sessions centers around workforce development strategies which would include the apprenticeship model. Apprenticeships within the wireless industry brings a richness of experiences, expertise and backgrounds which are fundamental to our industry.*

*The Supplier Diversity Summit is a day-long event (held on May 24<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Wireless Infrastructure Show) which seeks to connect diverse groups of businesses to major wireless companies and to facilitate productive discussions focused on the role diversity and inclusion plays in the wireless industry.*

**Website:** <https://wirelessinfrastructureshow.com/>