



DCEO PROGRAM YEAR 2024 APPRENTICESHIP GRANT

GRANT PERIOD: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

PROJECT OUTCOMES: 50 business engagements, 2 registered apprenticeship programs developed, 3 registered apprenticeship programs expanded, 15 apprentices complete Youth practitioner apprenticeship program, 8 opportunity youth enrolled in an apprenticeship program.

GRANT AWARD: \$159,476.29

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE SUPPORTED: **Increasing industry-led workforce solutions**

The State of Illinois Workforce Innovation Board (IWIB) has developed the Apprenticeship Illinois framework that focuses on expanding apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeship learning/training opportunities. To sustain and expand the Illinois Apprenticeship Network, the State is focusing resources on coordinating the Apprenticeship Navigator/Specialist roles and responsibilities within the local integrated business service teams. Illinois has received the second year of funding of a five-year grant from the US Department of Labor.

Workforce Development received the first round of grant funding to pay personnel costs of a Workforce Development Apprenticeship Navigator position and develop an employer strategy when developing and expanding registered apprenticeship models. The following outcomes have been reported:

- 4 employers registered apprenticeship programs: Architectural and Civil Drafters, Administrative, Landscaping and Groundskeeping, Industrial Engineering Technologist
- 3 employers expanded existing apprenticeship programs
- 49 businesses engaged in conversation on apprenticeships
- 19 incumbent workers enrolled in the Youth Development Practitioner Apprenticeship Program from 6 youth-serving organizations

This second year of funding will focus on continuing to expand apprentice and pre-apprenticeship awareness to industry and job candidates. Workforce Development is focusing on increasing Registered Apprenticeship Programs with employers across key industry sectors including manufacturing and professional services and continuing with the successful Youth Development Practitioner Apprenticeship (YDPA), a DOL Registered Apprenticeship Program sponsored by the National Institute for Work & Learning, phi360, to enroll opportunity youth in the apprenticeship program to apply their lived experience to the service and the community.

This grant will be used to fund the Apprenticeship Navigator position, pre-apprenticeship work and help employers offset costs associated with on the job training.