

Intro



U.S. Department of Labor presents:

Youth with Disabilities Entering the Workplace through Apprenticeship

About this Tool Kit:

This tool kit was developed under contract with the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. A companion research paper was also prepared that examined issues surrounding apprenticeship and people with disabilities. A number of experts in the apprenticeship, disability and youth development fields were consulted in the preparation of both of these documents. Their assistance is greatly appreciated.

The purpose of the tool kit is to provide information on a series of topical areas around registered apprenticeship and how it can be used to provide employment opportunities for people with disabilities. The intended audiences for this tool kit are service providers, both public and private, that work with young people, including young people with disabilities. As such, a variety of service providers should find this useful, including youth workforce development professionals, vocational rehabilitation service providers, other disability service providers, including community rehabilitation providers, One-Stop Career Center personnel, and high school personnel that work with youth on post-secondary transition planning. Although the emphasis is on young people with disabilities, much of the information is applicable to all youth and young adults.

The tool kit is organized by the following six topical areas:

1. Understanding Apprenticeship Basics
2. Preparing Youth and Young Adults for Apprenticeship Programs
3. Increasing Participation of Young Adults with Disabilities In Apprenticeship Programs
4. Establishing New Apprenticeship Programs
5. What Apprenticeship Employers Need to Know About Working with Young Adults with Disabilities
6. Looking to Future Opportunities in Apprenticeship



Each of the guide sheets in this tool kit has three sections: 1) An Overview, which introduces the topic; 2) What You Need to Know, which provides content information on the topic; and 3) Where to Go for More Information, which provides additional web-based resources. The guide sheets, which collectively provide a comprehensive resource on registered apprenticeship, can also be used individually. Some information is repeated to facilitate individual use. Users of this guide should feel free to distribute it in its entirety or in parts. For example, the guide sheet “What Apprenticeship Employers Need to Know about Working with Young Adults with Disabilities” may serve as a suitable stand-alone handout for employers.

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