

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY SYSTEM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Washington, D.C. 20210	CLASSIFICATION Apprenticeship
	CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL OA
	DATE April 10, 2026

ADVISORY: TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT GUIDANCE LETTER NO. 08-25

TO: GOVERNORS
NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS
OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP STAFF
STATE APPRENTICESHIP AGENCIES
STATE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION DIRECTORS
STATE EDUCATION AGENCY HEADS
STATE WORKFORCE AGENCY HEADS

FROM: HENRY MACK, ED.D. /s/
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

SUBJECT: State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula Round 4 Grant Program
Application Instructions and Program Description

- 1. Purpose.** The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL, or the Department, or we), announces the availability of approximately \$85 million in formula funding to states and territories for a fourth round of State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula (herein referred to as “SAEF4”) grants.

This Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) and its attachments contain information about the formula award, application requirements and procedures, program goals and objectives; expected performance outcomes; eligibility; funding restrictions, policies, and limitations; period of performance (POP); and post-award policies related to this grant program.

- 2. Action Requested.** Interested states and territories should review this TEGL and its attachments in their entirety. Successful applicants for SAEF4 must meet the requirements outlined in the attachments.

Interested and eligible entities, as described in **Attachment I Program Description**, must submit complete applications no later than 11:59 PM ET on May 26 in accordance with the application instructions in **Attachment II Project Narrative**.

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3. Summary and Background.

- a. Summary - The goal of the SAEF4 grant program is to fuel Registered Apprenticeship expansion by funding states and territories to enhance their capacity to register programs and support apprentices and employers. To meet this goal, DOL will implement a new performance-based formula to award Registered Apprenticeship funding to eligible states and territories. The SAEF4 performance-based formula, methodology and allocation details are provided in **Attachment VIII Formula Allocation and Methodology**. To receive formula funds, all eligible states and territories must commit to three (3) core requirements and states with federally recognized State Apprenticeship Agencies (hereinafter referred to as SAA states) must commit to an additional core requirement, for a total of four (4) core commitments for SAA states:
 - i. (1) Setting statewide Registered Apprenticeship expansion goals;
 - ii. (2) Dedicating a portion of funding to direct support for Registered Apprenticeship programs or apprentices in a state-identified industry(ies);
 - iii. (3) Committing to leveraged funds of at least 50 percent of the base funding amount allocated in the formula, and;
 - iv. (4) For SAA states, promoting transparency and accountability in their registration process by publishing average program approval times.

These requirements are described in **Attachment II Project Narrative**.

- b. Background - Registered Apprenticeships address critical skills gaps across industries and regions nationwide. The SAEF4 program provides direct funding to states and territories based on apprenticeship system growth within the state. It aims to expand the National Apprenticeship System while simultaneously incentivizing states to focus on growth of the system by removing barriers that currently limit employer participation in Registered Apprenticeships, increasing transparency around the registration process, and setting ambitious goals for growth to advance President Trump's goal to reach and surpass 1 million active apprentices. Further, SAEF4 aligns with *America's Talent Strategy* by preparing the workforce for economic growth and strengthens the National Apprenticeship System as the nation's premier talent development pipeline. The program seeks to advance DOL's efforts to prioritize reindustrialization by focusing on in-demand sectors such as artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure, nuclear energy infrastructure, shipbuilding, advanced manufacturing, domestic mineral production, information technology (IT) and other Administration-identified industry sectors.

4. Program Authorization and OMB Information Collection.

Program Authorization. These grants are authorized under the Full-Year Continuing

Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025, Division A, Title IX (Public Law 119-4).

OMB Information Collection. OMB Information Collection number 1225-0086, Expires June 30, 2028.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments about the burden estimated or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, to the attention of the Departmental Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room N1301, Washington, D.C. 20210. Comments may also be emailed to: DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov. (Please do not return your grant application to this address. Send only comments about the burden caused by the collection of information to this address. Send your grant application to the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) via <https://www.grants.gov> as described in Attachment IV Application Requirements, Review Process, and Award Notices.)

This information is being collected for the purpose of awarding a grant. The Department will use the information collected through this TEGL to ensure that grants are awarded to applicants whose applications meet all of the requirements described in this TEGL and its attachments be considered for this grant.

5. **Inquiries.** If you have any questions, please contact LaQuisha Barnes, Grants Management Specialist, Office of Grants Management, at SAEF4-TEGL@dol.gov, and specifically reference the TEGL No. 08-25. This TEGL is available on the ETA website at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/grants> and at <https://www.grants.gov>.

6. **References.**

- National Apprenticeship Act, 29 U.S.C. 50
- Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025, Division A, Title IX (Public Law 119-4)

7. **Attachments.**

- Attachment I: Program Description
- Attachment II: Project Narrative
- Attachment III: Performance Reporting Requirements
- Attachment IV: Application Requirements, Review Process, and Award Notices
- Attachment V: Suggested Abstract Template
- Attachment VI: Suggested Work Plan Template

- Attachment VII: Formula Allocations and Methodology