



YouthBuild



YouthBuild by the numbers

\$90 million* annual funding for competitive grants	1,400+ housing units constructed or renovated since 2012
200* active DOL YB programs	5,000* YB participants served per year
40* states with DOL YB programs	40 months of activity per grant

* approximate

What is YouthBuild?

Administered by the US Department of Labor's (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA), YouthBuild is a workforce development program that provides education, training, and leadership development opportunities to young people who face barriers to employment. The [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act](#) (WIOA) designates YouthBuild as a [pre-apprenticeship](#) model, which requires alignment with local employer needs, supportive services for participants, career exploration, credential opportunities, and partnership with one or more registered apprenticeship programs.

Who is eligible to participate in YouthBuild?

YouthBuild participants must be between the ages of 16 and 24. Most left high school without a diploma and are either a member of a low-income family, a foster care youth, a youth who is homeless, an offender, a youth with a disability, a child of an incarcerated parent, or a migrant youth. There are [limited exceptions](#) to these eligibility requirements.

How do YouthBuild participants spend their time in the program?

Participants spend at least 50 percent of [program time](#) receiving education services that may lead to either a high school diploma or its State-recognized equivalent. They spend at least 40 percent of program time engaged in workforce and skills development activities. All DOL-funded YouthBuild programs must train participants in construction while they build or significantly renovate at least one unit of housing for homeless individuals or low-income families, or transitional housing for homeless individuals. Most programs also train participants in other in-demand industries such as healthcare, advanced manufacturing, or hospitality – this additional training is known as [Construction Plus](#). Participants spend up to 10 percent of program time engaged in leadership development and community service activities.

What supportive services do YouthBuild participants receive?

Supportive services enable the youth to succeed in the classroom and the workforce by addressing barriers that may hinder educational and career progress. They include, [but are not limited to](#): assistance with transportation, child care, housing, supplies, and/or testing; needs-related payments; and reasonable accommodations for youth with disabilities.

Where are YouthBuild programs currently operating?

On dol.gov/grants, you can search for the keyword "YouthBuild" to see a map of currently active grants. Additional details about active grants are available on the [DOL YouthBuild website](#).

What is the connection between YouthBuild and apprenticeship?

YouthBuild has traditionally provided connections to apprenticeship opportunities in the building trades, and continues to strengthen connections to career pathways in other fields through training and partnerships in Construction Plus. YouthBuild aligns with initiatives from the DOL [Office of Apprenticeship](#), including [Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grants](#) (YARG), which support youth enrollment in registered apprenticeships with wraparound services, and [Youth Apprenticeship Intermediaries](#) (YAI), which work to engage underrepresented populations in YARG programs.



How do organizations receive YouthBuild funding?

[Eligible applicants](#) for DOL YouthBuild grants include non-profit agencies or organizations. DOL publishes an annual Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) on [grants.gov](#). While they vary each year, the most recently published FOA is a good resource to prepare for the future opportunities. To make sure that you don't miss the announcement, [subscribe to a saved search](#) for YouthBuild. More information is available on the [ETA grants website](#).

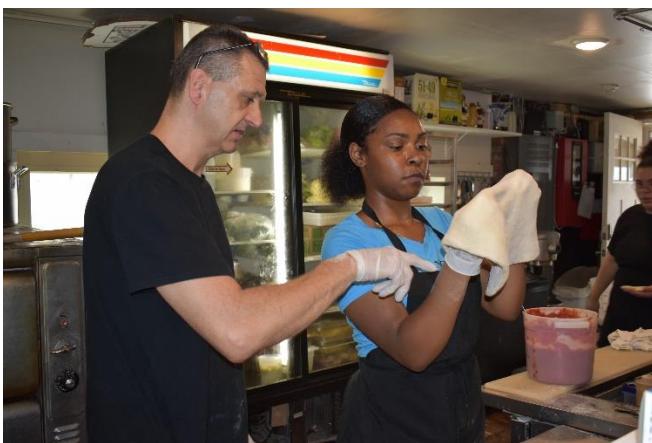
What timeframes apply to YouthBuild grants?

The period of performance for YouthBuild grants is 40 months: a planning period of up to 4 months; two years of active program services for one or more cohorts of youth; and 12 months of [follow-up services](#) and tracking of participant outcomes. Cohort schedules vary, but an eligible individual selected for participation in the program must be offered full-time participation in the program for not less than 6 months and not more than 24 months.



How does DOL assess the effectiveness of YouthBuild programs?

Grantees submit required reports to DOL, including Quarterly Performance Reports that track progress on six WIOA [performance indicators](#). Grantees report on participants' placement in employment, education, and training; credential attainment; measurable skill gains; and earnings.



How does DOL support YouthBuild programs?

Each grantee receives assistance from a DOL Federal Project Officer, and has the opportunity to attend regular events and training.

[YouthBuild USA](#) provides technical assistance (TA) to grantees through a five-year contract with DOL. YouthBuild USA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that supports an affiliate network of programs. Separate from the DOL contract, YouthBuild USA provides training and TA, leadership development, funding for innovative program enhancements, and advocacy for their affiliate network programs.

Where can I get more information?

DOL YouthBuild completed a comprehensive evaluation in 2018, and [the final report is available online](#). This document is also available on the [DOL YouthBuild website](#), in case you want to refer to the links throughout.

If you have questions, please contact:

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