



**OPERATING &  
MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS**  
Apprenticeship & Training Trust Fund for Southern California and Southern Nevada



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Tuesday, March 17, 2026

RE: NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2026 PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week annually raises awareness of the vital role Registered Apprenticeships provide in meeting critical industry workforce demands. Registered Apprenticeship programs develop the highly skilled workforce that employers need and create pathways for Americans to catapult into in-demand, high-paying careers; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs are industry-driven, high-quality career pathways that enable employers to develop and train their future workforce, and individuals can obtain paid work experience with a mentor, receive progressive wage increases, classroom instruction, and a portable, nationally recognized credential; and

WHEREAS, Operating & Maintenance Engineers Apprenticeship & Training Trust fund for Southern California and Southern Nevada recognizes the urgent need to prepare and maintain a highly skilled workforce that is capable of meeting the current and future demands of the industry we serve and fortifying our economy.

WHEREAS, Operating & Maintenance Engineers Apprenticeship & Training Trust fund for Southern California and Southern Nevada recognizes the pivotal role educators, school counselors, and educational institutions serve in not only bringing awareness of Registered Apprenticeship opportunities to students and parents, but also serving as training providers, program sponsors, and intermediaries.

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs are uniquely able to meet the changing demands of the Southern California and Southern Nevada economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Denise Vukojevich, Director of the Operating & Maintenance Engineers Apprenticeship & Training Trust Fund for Southern California and Southern Nevada, call upon stakeholders and partners to recognize the value of Registered Apprenticeship, and to promote awareness and expansion during National Apprenticeship Week.

Sincerely,

Denise M. Vukojevich, Director

International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 501, AFL-CIO

Operating & Maintenance Engineers, Apprenticeship & Training Trust Fund of Southern California, Southern Nevada, Arizona