

TRADEFUTURES

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WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week marks its 12th anniversary, celebrating the essential role Registered Apprenticeships play in creating opportunities by allowing apprentices to earn while they learn, paving the way to well-paying, quality jobs across the nation; and

WHEREAS, TradesFutures acknowledges the pressing need for a highly skilled workforce to meet industry demands and strengthen the economy. TradesFutures, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Labor, has secured to expand access within the construction industry. In collaboration with the National Urban League, this program aims to enroll over 13,000 participants from various communities, with a goal of placing at least 7,000 into Registered Apprenticeships over four years; and

WHEREAS, TradesFutures recognizes the pivotal role of Apprenticeship Readiness Programs in creating pathways to workforce opportunities. Our mission is to develop, promote, and improve ARPs that equip participants with the essential skills needed to choose, obtain, and succeed in Registered Apprenticeships within the construction industry. Through Apprenticeship Readiness Program (ARP) curriculum development, strong community partnerships, and a commitment to expanding access, TradesFutures helps individuals build lasting careers. Building Trades ARPs offer the Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3), a standardized 120-hour course designed to set participants up for success. Today, 200+ ARPs operate nationwide, all contributing to a prepared next generation of skilled workers; and

WHEREAS, TradesFutures acknowledges that Apprenticeship Readiness Programs serve as critical entry points to Registered Apprenticeships, offering a proven, industry-driven model for training the future workforce. These programs play a key role in recruitment, retention, job quality, and providing access to careers that sustain families. They also address the nation's most urgent workforce challenges—rebuilding infrastructure, supporting clean energy, modernizing cybersecurity, and meeting supply chain and care economy needs; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allison Balanc, Digital Media and Marketing Manager of TradesFutures, call upon the building and construction trades unions to recognize the value of Registered Apprenticeships and Apprenticeship Readiness Programs and to promote awareness and expansion in celebration of the National Apprenticeship Week, April 26th- May 2nd, 2026.

IN SUPPORT,

Allison Balanc, Digital Media and Marketing Manager, TradesFutures

allison@tradesfutures.org

202-213-9171