

MISSISSIPPI

Department of Employment Security

ASE Grant Award	\$899,501.57
Target Industries	Advanced manufacturing, automotive, healthcare, information technology, energy/utilities, and tourism/hospitality
Target Occupations	None identified
Registration Entity	U.S. Department of Labor
ASE Goals	440 apprentices, 36 new Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs)

Key ASE Expansion Strategies

- Convert unregistered programs to registered programs
- Hire two apprenticeship expansion specialists to oversee apprenticeship expansion activities and spearhead business engagement work.
- Promote RAPS to businesses and prospective apprentices through apprenticeship signing events, the Governor's RA trailblazers awards, radio spots, and other marketing activities.
- Use Mississippi Apprenticeship Program business champions to engage interested companies through a company-to-company approach and conduct three employer forums annually targeting various industry sectors.
- Hold capacity-building sessions for companies, community colleges, and other partners to enhance their understanding and implementation of RAPS.
- Encourage community colleges and local workforce development boards to become RA sponsors, in addition to the four pilot community colleges, with the Mississippi Community College Board taking on a statewide RA sponsorship role.
- Increase the number of female apprentices through partnerships with women-serving organizations and training for RAP leaders, mentors, and other partners on strategies to effectively engage and retain women in RA Programs.