

STATE APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION FORMULA FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Lead Applicant / Organization Name	Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training
Lead Applicant Entity Type:	State Agency
Lead Applicant City and State:	Cranston, Rhode Island
Funding Option: Base Funding Only	
Project Title: Rhode Island State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula Funding Application	
Funding Amount Requested: \$353,679.00	
Total Number of apprentices enrolled in RAPs during the life of the grant, if applicable: Not Applicable	
Population(s) to be Served: Rhode Island job seekers, communities, and businesses with a specific focus on expanding access to RA/RAP model, improving equity in implementation and enabling awareness of the RA system to drive expansion and support the broader workforce through pathways to good-quality jobs	
Required Partners:	
Department of Labor and Training	Required
State Apprenticeship Agency & Council	Required
Optional Partners:	
Building Futures, a 501(c)3 Organization	Subrecipient
Governor's Workforce Board (GWB)	State & Local WDB
Targeted Industry(ies) and/or Occupation(s): Our focus via SAEF grant funds is to enhance the opportunity for and utilization of the Registered Apprenticeship (RA) system in the industries with the most projected demand for skilled labor: 1) Construction; 2) Healthcare/Childcare; 3) Manufacturing; 4) Green/Plant-based Industries; and 5) Business Services (e.g., information technology, finance/insurance, and professional services occupations). Each target industry has strong RA programs established. Further, SAEF base funding will help support the operational public sector RAPs and those in development in addition to multiple RAPs in climate/clean energy related occupations. With market demand and a long history of successful programs, the unionized construction industry provides a sector-based "learning laboratory" for the RA system to help guide resource development for the system as a whole. During the project, RA will be further connected with community-based organizations serving underrepresented populations, deepen connection with K-12, Adult Education Providers, and Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs), and become more incorporated within state and local workforce board activities. Rhode Island will expand on its work with the justice-involved community, bringing awareness of, and opportunity to prepare currently incarcerated individuals for apprenticeship opportunities upon release. Each of the apprenticed occupations carry multiple and various certifications, depending upon the profession. Importantly, each apprentice completing a Registered Apprenticeship will gain the national portable certification this accomplishment earns.	

Summary of Program Activities: Through intentional focus and continued partnership with the state's apprenticeship intermediary, Building Futures, the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training will continue to enhance Rhode Island's increasingly robust RA system capacity and provide support for State Apprenticeship Agency process improvements. In partnership with DLT's Division of Workforce Services and Division of Professional Regulation, the state's apprenticeship intermediary strategy will deepen efforts to incorporate RA within the broader public education and workforce development system and provide supports through strong coordination. Grant activities intentionally incorporate diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility as a key strategy in all Registered Apprenticeship expansion and modernization activities while improving partnership between RA and the public workforce and education systems. Rhode Island's five-year work-plan recognizes RA as a key strategy to address the state's employment challenges.

Subrecipient Roles: Building Futures serves as RI's Apprenticeship Intermediary, with shared responsibilities for the implementation of Rhode Island's five-year RA work plan and is the private partner in the public/private partnership, Apprenticeship RI.

Public Contact Information:

Name, Title: Sarah Bramblet, Administrator, Operations Management

Address: 1511 Pontiac Avenue, Bldg. 70, Cranston, RI 02920

Phone Number: (401) 462-8812

Email Address: sarah.bramblet@dlt.ri.gov