



## Secretary's Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (ACA)

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON APPRENTICESHIP – FOURTH MEETING

#### Executive Summary

The Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (ACA) is a discretionary Federal advisory committee re-established by the Secretary of Labor on May 4, 2021, following the President's February 17, 2021, statement on bolstering Registered Apprenticeships, in which he highlighted the importance of the worker's voice and encouraged the Department of Labor (USDOL) to reinstate a national committee focused on apprenticeships. The fourth public meeting of the ACA took place on Tuesday, September 27th, 2022. This meeting provided a forum for the Office of Apprenticeship (OA) to update the ACA on its plans for implementation of the ACA's recommendations from the ACA's Interim Report (delivered to the Secretary of Labor after the last full meeting of the ACA on May 16th, 2022); to discuss Year 2 priorities and tasks for the ACA; and to provide the ACA with an opportunity to provide feedback, ask questions, and otherwise deliberate on the plan for the ACA's work in Year 2.

Moderator: Dr. Pam Eddinger, ACA Chairperson

USDOL Speakers: John Ladd (OA Administrator) and Brent Parton (Acting Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration (ETA))

#### Meeting Highlights

- **Dr. Pam Eddinger** moderated the meeting and took roll call.
- **John Ladd**, serving as the Designated Federal Official, opened the meeting and outlined the agenda, noting that the meeting would focus on updating the ACA on OA's plans to implement the ACA's recommendations from the Interim Report and finalizing plans for Year 2.
- **Brent Parton, Acting Assistant Secretary, ETA** spoke to the ACA about the importance and impact of their work thus far and stated that OA has been reviewing, analyzing, and prioritizing the recommendations presented by the ACA in the Interim Report. Mr. Parton urged members to sustain the ACA's momentum in Year 2 and framed the months ahead as a "moment" to improve the Registered Apprenticeship system. Finally, Mr. Parton noted that this is the time to reexamine the current Registered Apprenticeship framework and its stakeholders to consider system and process improvements, emerging sector components, and strategies to ensure that Registered Apprenticeship opportunities are accessible for people and communities most in need.



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- **Apprenticeship Program Graduate Highlights: Selena Pabon** recounted her experience as an apprentice and described the benefits of apprenticeship.
- **Departmental Update on ACA Interim Recommendations: John Ladd** reported back to the ACA on OA's extensive analysis of the Interim Report, including cataloging, and analyzing the 145 recommendations identified by the ACA's various subcommittees. OA looked not only at the main body of the Interim Report itself, but also at cross-cutting themes and the Interim Report's appendices, and alignment with any existing or in-progress OA initiatives that cover ACA recommendations. Going forward, OA will continue to assess the recommendations against efforts and programs already in place, possible constraints, and opportunities for collaboration with Federal partners. Finally, Mr. Ladd noted that OA submitted an Implementation Plan to the Secretary of Labor for his ultimate review and approval, including considering organizational capacity increases to implement the recommendations.
- **ACA Year 2 Plan – Strategic Discussion and Overview: ACA Chair Pam Eddinger** and ACA Co-Chairs **Noel Ginsburg** and **Bernadette Oliveira-Rivera** led a group discussion regarding refocusing the ACA's attention on a Final Report (to be delivered at a full meeting of the ACA in late spring 2023) and the challenges and opportunities facing the ACA going into Year 2.
- **Proposed Plan and Priority Topic Areas for Year 2: John Ladd** outlined a Strategic Framework that will wrap around the 145 specific recommendations and communicate to the public and other stakeholders the broad vision for advancing apprenticeship, which encompasses modernizing, diversifying, and expanding Registered Apprenticeship.
- **Proposed Year 2 Topic Areas:** OA leads for each ACA subcommittee outlined potential topics for ACA subcommittees to focus on in Year 2:
  - Industry Engagement in New and Emerging Sectors (**Cierra Mitchell**)
  - Apprenticeship Pathways: Pre-Apprenticeship, Youth Apprenticeship, and Degree Apprenticeship (**Megan Baird**)
  - Apprenticeship Modernization (**Andy Ridgeway**)
  - Increasing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Apprenticeship (**Julie Wong**)
  - Ex-Officio Working Group (**Michael Qualter**)



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- **Road Map for Year 2: John Ladd** reviewed the ACA Timeline and proposed 2022-2023 road map, noting that the ACA Final Report is due for completion in late spring 2023 – this Final Report will be informed, in part, by Issue Briefs that describe the strategic importance of focus areas, issues, or topics identified by the subcommittees, including subcommittee recommendations in these areas.