

Apprenticeship Expansion and Modernization Fund

Jobs for the Future

Project Overview

Partners/Subs	Target Audience	Primary Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Policy Research Associates (SPR)• National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB)• District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund (1199C)	Opportunity youth: Young adults ages 16 to 24 who do not have connections to school or employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enrollment of 500 opportunity youth (OY) into Registered Apprenticeship• Enrollment of 200 individuals from any population category including adults into Registered Apprenticeship• Provision of comprehensive virtual & in-person technical assistance to sites and business partners focused on diversity & inclusion, and support to creation of opportunities for OY

Critical Need:

- JFF completed a national scan of opportunity-youth-serving intermediaries and community-based organizations (CBOs) and found that very few connect opportunity youth to apprenticeships, due to a lack of familiarity with apprenticeship and the apprenticeship system. JFF is proposing an innovative approach to transforming registered apprenticeship to make it relevant and accessible to ~6 million opportunity youth.

Project Highlights & Innovation:

Rapid Innovation Pilots:

- JFF is executing innovation pilots in two of the seven categories highlighted by OA: a) intermediary-based technical assistance and b) diversity and inclusion:
 - **For intermediaries, JFF will test innovations** that build the capacity of local intermediaries to drive apprenticeship modernization; and
 - **Innovations in diversity and inclusion** will be tested through piloting models for engaging opportunity youth in **15 selected sites** (from the network of 75 sites).
- JFF is also **managing a rapid innovation fund for external entities** to propose innovations in the areas highlighted above, as well as in online and digital services that could improve technical assistance delivery or increase apprenticeship completion rate.

Outreach and Technical Assistance:

- JFF is establishing a nationwide network of training and technical assistance providers including in-person and virtual institutes to support prospective and current apprenticeship sponsors, intermediaries, and other related stakeholders.
- JFF is helping build the capacity of youth-serving organizations, workforce development boards, employers and others that lack familiarity and knowledge navigating the apprenticeship system and/or lack expertise in engaging and supporting Opportunity Youth. JFF is also offering incentives and rapid innovation pilot funding to support sponsors and apprentices.

Incentives:

- The AEMF incentive fund approach largely draws on the design of the Industry Partner incentives while accounting for the unique aspects of supporting opportunity youth.

How JFF's work on AEMF is Different:

- The focus on out-of-school youth specifically the focus on OY experiencing trauma-related barriers vs. in-school youth (that JFF serves through youth intermediaries) is unique to the AEMF contract.

For more information, visit [Jff.org/oyapprenticeship](https://jff.org/oyapprenticeship).