



# National Apprenticeship Week 2026

*New Season, Same Mission: NAW moves to the Spring*

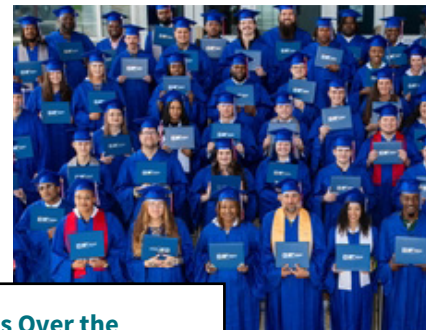
## WHAT IS NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK?

**National Apprenticeship Week (NAW)** is a nationwide celebration where ApprenticeshipUSA partners – employers, industry associations, labor organizations, community-based organizations, workforce partners, educational institutions, federal, state, and local government agencies and more - host apprenticeship events and issue proclamations across the country to demonstrate the value of Registered Apprenticeship in meeting critical industry workforce needs. This proven, industry-driven workforce strategy drives economic growth across all industries. Registered Apprenticeship develops the highly skilled workforce that employers need and creates pathways for career seekers to secure in-demand, high-paying careers. This NAW is an opportunity to promote and expand Registered Apprenticeship and exceed the 1 million active apprentice goal to meet industry workforce needs and get career seekers into quality jobs.

The year 2026 marks the 12th annual NAW, which will take place from **April 26 – May 2**. It will be the first NAW held in the spring and is anticipated to be the biggest celebration yet! Based on ApprenticeshipUSA partner feedback, NAW moved to the spring to capitalize on warmer weather, recognize apprentice graduation ceremonies, and connect with other springtime celebrations, so the Department is expecting thousands of events this year. Future NAW celebrations will take place during the following dates:

- April 25 – May 1, 2027
- April 23 – April 29, 2028

The theme for NAW 2026 is ***“America at Work: Making America Skilled Again Through Registered Apprenticeship”***. As the nation celebrates its 250th year and continues its reindustrialization under President Trump’s leadership, the NAW 2026 theme reflects Registered Apprenticeship’s prominence as a key strategy to ensure the American worker is equipped for the skilled jobs of today and tomorrow. Apprenticeship events and proclamations this year will also highlight how Registered Apprenticeship has gained increased recognition worldwide as a tool to get America skilled again. Expanding Registered Apprenticeship will address some of our nation’s most pressing workforce challenges such as filling the growing demand for skilled trades, advanced manufacturing, shipbuilding, AI, nuclear energy, and other industries and occupations.



### NAW Achievements Over the Past 12 years:

- ✓ All 50 U.S. states and territories participated
- ✓ Over 10,200 events held
- ✓ Over 3,250 proclamations signed
- ✓ Over 2,000,000 attendees





## WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

NAW is for everyone: employers, unions, students and other career seekers, parents, educators, workforce leaders, federal agencies, and other ApprenticeshipUSA partners that support the expansion of Registered Apprenticeship or want to learn more about it.

## WHY PARTICIPATE?

NAW gives industry **partners, unions, educators, States, workforce partners and other Registered Apprenticeship partners** an opportunity to showcase Registered Apprenticeship programs, facilities and apprentice achievements. It gives **apprentices and graduates** a platform to share their Registered Apprenticeship experience and how it has transformed their lives. It also provides **the public, including career seekers, youth, parents, teacher and career counselors** with the opportunity to learn more about the benefits of Registered Apprenticeship and other programs available in their communities.

## HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

Join Registered Apprenticeship champions across America by hosting an apprenticeship-related event or activity, signing and submitting a proclamation, or attending an event in your community. You can highlight your NAW event on our website or locate events in your area to attend by using the event finder on

the NAW webpage. We encourage you to share photos/videos from NAW events on social media and include the official NAW hashtags: **#NAW2026**, **#ApprenticeshipUSA**.

## WHAT COUNTS AS AN EVENT?

Event hosts across America have put the spotlight on Registered Apprenticeship through apprentice graduations, apprenticeship signing ceremonies, round table discussions, program open houses, fireside chats, career fairs, apprentice skills competitions, social media-related activities, webinars/virtual events, podcasts, and more. Events do not need to occur during April 26 - May 2 to be considered a NAW 2026 event. While we encourage you to host events that week, please feel free to add any apprenticeship-related events happening the month of NAW 2026 to our NAW website.



**“Help us make National Apprenticeship Week 2026 the biggest yet, and remember to tag us on social media with **#NAW2026** and **#ApprenticeshipUSA**!”**

— **Megan Baird**  
Acting Administrator  
U.S. Department of Labor  
Office of Apprenticeship

Visit [Apprenticeship.gov/National-Apprenticeship-Week](https://www.apprenticeship.gov/National-Apprenticeship-Week) to learn more about National Apprenticeship Week 2026, find an event, submit a proclamation, and access resources to help plan, promote, and enhance your own event. Contact us at [NationalApprenticeshipWeek@dol.gov](mailto:NationalApprenticeshipWeek@dol.gov) with any questions.

## Explore Registered Apprenticeship Today!

Want to learn more? Visit the U.S. Department of Labor’s one-stop source for all things apprenticeship: [www.apprenticeship.gov](https://www.apprenticeship.gov) or email us at [apprenticeship@dol.gov](mailto:apprenticeship@dol.gov).

**APPRENTICESHIPUSA**  
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