

Telecommunications

The telecommunications industry actively supports the nation’s efforts to expand telecommunications coverage, including broadband and 5G. Advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) have made telecommunications even more important since many telecommunications occupations play a crucial role in building, maintaining, and securing the foundational network infrastructure that AI systems need to function effectively.

Registered Apprenticeship is a proven solution for quickly and effectively recruiting, training and retaining world-class telecommunications talent in quality, high-demand jobs. In 2025, there were 12,198 registered apprentices served in the telecommunications industry, a 46 percent increase over the past 5 years.¹

THE NEED FOR REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY

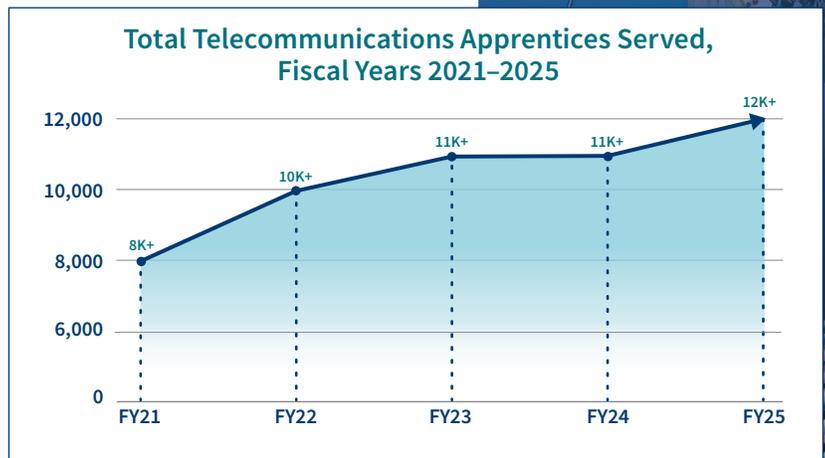
The telecommunications industry is critical to the nation’s infrastructure and economic competitiveness. The challenge? Significant talent shortages are slowing employers’ efforts to expand, innovate, and excel. Among these challenges:

- ▶ Creating a well-trained and adaptable workforce to enhance and sustain broadband and 5G coverage that meets the nation’s needs for connectivity and AI infrastructure; and
- ▶ Developing rapid and responsive workforce training and upskilling models.

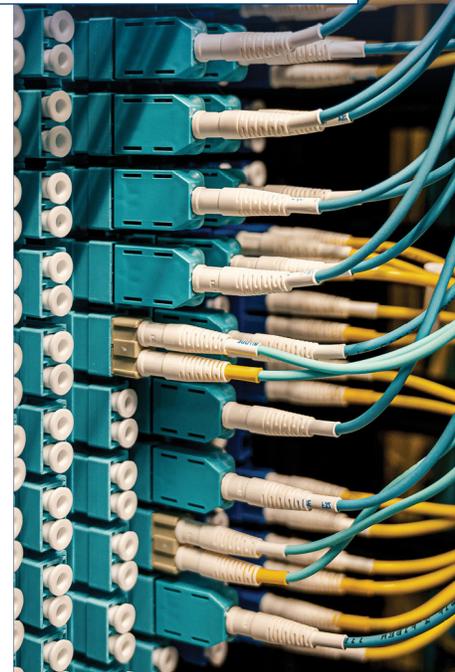
The good news? There is a proven solution that can be integrated into existing training and workforce development strategies to meet critical talent challenges: **Registered Apprenticeship.**

WHAT IS REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP?

Registered Apprenticeship is an industry-driven, high-quality career pathway through which employers can develop and prepare their future workforce, and individuals can obtain paid work experience with a mentor and receive progressive wage increases, classroom instruction, and a portable, nationally recognized credential. Registered Apprenticeships are industry-vetted and approved and validated by the U.S. Department of Labor or a State Apprenticeship Agency.



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REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP: THE TOP TALENT DEVELOPMENT SOLUTION FOR EMPLOYERS

Employers in the telecommunications industry across the U.S. use the Registered Apprenticeship training model to recruit, train, and retain workers with the right skills. Registered Apprenticeship is the most effective training model for enhancing companies' performance and competitiveness.

HOW CAN REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP HELP COMPANIES?

Telecommunications employers realize several benefits from implementing Registered Apprenticeship programs. Through Registered Apprenticeship, employers will:

- ▶ Customize training to meet the company's needs;
- ▶ Recruit and develop a highly skilled workforce;
- ▶ Improve productivity, profitability, and the company's bottom line;
- ▶ Reduce turnover, improve loyalty, and retain top talent; and
- ▶ Access potential funding opportunities and connect with a network of apprenticeship experts and other industry, educational, and workforce partners.

Partner with the Office of Apprenticeship, your respective State Apprenticeship Agency [or our investment partners](#) to access a nationwide network of expertise, customer service, and support. Our apprenticeship team creates business solutions and helps you quickly achieve workforce results.



“The growing demand for greater connectivity and advanced networks in the U.S. requires more highly skilled telecommunications workers than ever before. It is critical that industry, in partnership with government, continues to expand on efforts to develop, implement, and promote broadband workforce training opportunities. With the DOL’s support, we provide meaningful career pathways within the telecommunications industry to help meet this demand through our Registered Apprenticeship program.”

—Patrick Halley, WIA President and CEO

SNAPSHOT: EXAMPLES OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS-RELATED APPRENTICEABLE OCCUPATIONS

- ▶ Broadband Technician
- ▶ Central Office Installer
- ▶ Fiber Optic Technician
- ▶ In-Building Wireless Installation Technician
- ▶ Overhead Utility Installer Technician
- ▶ Telecommunications Utility Foreman
- ▶ Telecommunications Tower Technician
- ▶ Underground Utility Installer Technician

¹ The numbers represent apprentices from multiple industries in telecommunications-related occupations.

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 or email us at apprenticeship@dol.gov.

APPRENTICESHIPUSA™
★★★