

# ABSTRACT

**United States Department of Labor**  
**State Apprenticeship Expansion, Equity, and Innovation Grant (FOA-ETA-21-07)**

**South Carolina’s State Apprenticeship Expansion, Equity, and Innovation Grant (SAEEI)  
Abstract**

<b>State Apprenticeship Expansion, Equity, and Innovation Grants</b>	
<b>Lead Applicant / Organization Name:</b>	South Carolina State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education (Apprenticeship Carolina)
<b>Lead Applicant Entity Type:</b>	State Agency
<b>Lead Applicant City and State:</b>	Columbia, South Carolina
<b>Project Title:</b> South Carolina - State Apprenticeship Expansion, Equity, and Innovation Grant	
<b>Funding Amount Requested:</b> \$7,710,000.00	
<b>Application proposing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts as a key strategy in registered apprenticeship expansion efforts and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion plan is included as application to application:</b>  Yes.	
<b>Total Number of apprentices enrolled in RAPs during the life of the grant:</b>  1,000	
<b>Populations to be Served:</b>  All South Carolina citizens enrolled in pre-apprenticeships certified by Apprenticeship Carolina and individuals enrolled in USDOL Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs). Focus on enrolling <u>underrepresented populations</u> in SC.	
<b>List the name of the Required Partner (for states with federally-recognized SAAs):</b>  Not applicable. SC is a USDOL, Office of Apprenticeship state.	
List the name(s) of <b>Optional Partners</b> , as applicable:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC Commission for Minority Affairs – State Agency</li> <li>• SC Department of Commerce – State Agency</li> <li>• SC Department of Education – State Agency</li> <li>• SC Department of Employment and Workforce – State Agency</li> <li>• SC National Guard – State Agency</li> <li>• SC Vocational Rehabilitation – State Agency</li> <li>• SC Urban League (includes Charleston, Columbia, and Upstate Chapters) – Community-based organizations</li> <li>• Jobs for the Future (JFF) – USDOL-funded Intermediary</li> <li>• Healthcare Career Advancement Program (HCAP) – USDOL-funded Industry Intermediary</li> <li>• SC Manufacturers Alliance – Industry Association</li> <li>• SC Hospital Association – Industry Association</li> <li>• SC Restaurant and Lodging Association – Industry Association</li> <li>• SC Chamber of Commerce (state chamber)</li> <li>• Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Hilton Head Island Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce</li> </ul>	

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<p><b>Targeted Industry(ies) and/or Occupation(s):</b></p> <p>Apprenticeship Carolina will develop <u>apprenticeable occupations</u> within the following non-traditional industries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transportation and Warehousing</li><li>• Accommodation and Food Services</li><li>• Retail Trade</li><li>• Information</li><li>• Healthcare and Social Assistance</li><li>• Administrative and Support Services</li><li>• Finance and Insurance</li><li>• Manufacturing</li></ul>
<p><b>Summary of program activities:</b></p> <p>SC’s SAEEI grant will expand RAPs and pre-apprenticeships statewide for high-growth industries and those that were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through three project goals, Apprenticeship Carolina (AC) will collaborate with SAEEI partners on innovative strategies to modernize and diversify RAPs, strengthen system alignment, and enhance program development and recruitment strategies. AC will develop new and innovative, apprentice recruitment and enrollment strategies, such as an apprentice job and resource board, apprentice questionnaire, and new marketing strategies to support RAP expansion for underrepresented populations.</p> <p>SC’s three goals for SAEEI are:</p> <p>One: Significantly expand RAP and pre-apprentice opportunities for apprentices, meeting SC employers’ needs in industries impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and all other industries.</p> <p>Two: Ensure all registered apprentices, especially underrepresented populations, have access to RAPs and the support they need to be successful.</p> <p>Three: Increase awareness of RAP and pre-apprenticeship opportunities available to all individuals via strategic marketing, new resources in Spanish, and an apprentice job and resource board.</p> <p>AC will include diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) activities as key strategy across all the goals above (see Appendix E for SC’s DEI plan).</p>
<p><b>List of credentials to be awarded:</b></p> <p>Stackable credentials, including high school diploma/GED, Apprenticeship Carolina Pre-Apprenticeship certificate, college credits, industry-recognized, credentials, college degrees, and USDOL National Apprenticeship Completion Certificate.</p>
<p><b>The census tract number(s) in your target area designated as a qualified opportunity zone, if applicable:</b></p> <p>Not applicable. We propose to utilize this funding statewide.</p>
<p><b>Public Contact Information</b></p> <p>Name: Dr. Amy Firestone Title: Vice President of Apprenticeship Carolina™ Address: 111 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, SC 29210 Phone Number: 803-896-5276 Email Address: <a href="mailto:firestonea@sctechsystem.edu">firestonea@sctechsystem.edu</a></p>