

Abstract
Minnesota Capacity Expansion for Registered Apprenticeship
(MN CERA) Initiative

2020 State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant	
Lead Applicant Organization’s Name:	Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry
Tier I Funding Amount:	\$450,000

1. *National Apprenticeship System Building.* States must spend base funding on developing structures that ensure all RAPs in the State have the features of high-quality apprenticeship described in 29 C.F.R. parts 29 and 30.
2. *System Alignment for Apprenticeship Expansion.* States must spend base funding to build statewide capacity to increase the number and quality of apprenticeships through stronger alignment with the education and workforce systems.
3. *Improving Data Sharing and Data Integrity.* States must spend base funding to improve data collection and sharing and data integrity.

Short Project Summary:

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry proudly requests \$450,000 for the Minnesota Capacity Expansion for Registered Apprenticeship, or MN CERA, Initiative. The first of three components will be to develop and implement a new data management system to strengthen the operations of registered apprenticeship programs. Secondly, Minnesota will take a four-pronged approach to further system alignment to expand registered apprenticeship, including engaging secondary education institutions, continuing coordination with workforce development programs, reaching out to additional post-secondary institutions to become related instruction providers, and finally, by promoting the maximization of GI Bill benefits to support apprentices and sponsors. Thirdly, Minnesota proposes the development and implementation of a rebuilt data management system to record and report apprenticeship system activities in Minnesota.

Because this project is focused on capacity expansion, it will impact registered apprenticeship programs in all industries and occupations over the long-term.