

<b>2019 State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant</b>	
<b>Lead Applicant Organization's Name:</b>	Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development
<b>Tier I Funding Amount:</b> <i>State can receive a base amount of \$450,000; U.S. territories receive \$300,000.</i>	\$450,000

**Tier I Baseline Goals:**

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:**

Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development (OOWD) will use base funding to raise awareness of Registered Apprenticeship (RA) as a workforce solution to employers through marketing, communications, and incentive strategies. Marketing strategies include the promotion of National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) events and other informational presentations/events hosted by OOWD. Incentive strategies will include the release of employer grants to offset the extraordinary startup costs of a RAP. Allowable costs include but are not limited to staff costs, mentor stipends, partnership meetings, purchase of in-house curriculum/training materials, creation of training tools, and recruitment, etc. Communication and outreach for this project will specifically target the finance, public service, retail, childcare/education, food service, public utilities, alternative energy, aerospace, and healthcare industries. System alignment strategies will build statewide capacity to increase the quality of apprenticeships through stronger collaboration between the education and workforce systems; will include raising awareness and training amongst educators of RA as a viable and prosperous

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post-secondary career pathway. OOWD will collaborate with secondary education institution/districts and professional organizations to develop teacher externship opportunities and schedule industry tours within RA sponsor locations. OOWD staff will improve data sharing by encouraging employers to list RA opportunities on the Finder app, participate in quarterly DOL RAPIDS group data reviews/validation sessions (RAPIDS Weeks) to verify and clean up existing data, and participate in weekly RAPIDS Power User Group (PUG) meetings to collaborate on improving the RAPIDS user experience and data governance.