

Abstract – South Carolina’s State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant (SAE)

2019 State Apprenticeship Expansion Grant	
Lead Applicant Organization’s Name:	South Carolina Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education (Division of Apprenticeship Carolina™ within the South Carolina Technical College System)
Tier I Funding Amount:	\$450,000
Tier II Funding Amount:	\$6,541,000

Tier I Baseline Goals:

1. National Apprenticeship System Building
2. System Alignment for Apprenticeship Expansion
3. Improving Data Sharing and Data Integrity

Short Project Summary:

Apprenticeship Carolina™, (AC) has developed multiple strategies to meet the three baseline goals that will expand high-quality registered apprenticeship programs (RAPs) in S.C. AC will accomplish goal activities in close collaboration with USDOL’s Office of Apprenticeship (OA) in S.C.

- Through Goal 1 activities, AC will improve S.C.’s apprenticeship system by developing new online tools for employers and apprentices, such as an employer portal and a technical assistance plan. The tools will ease the RAP oversight process for employers, so they can maintain high-quality RAPs, in compliance with 29 C.F.R. parts 29 and 30.
- Through Goal 2 activities, AC will build stronger alignment with the S.C. Department of Education and S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW). One of the major strategies includes creating a statewide apprenticeship pathway guide for educators and CTE Administrators. The guide will provide employers and the state’s 16 technical colleges with a framework for course requirements, assessments, and potential schedules for each career pathway. Also, AC will collaborate with SCDEW on COVID-19 recovery initiatives to support job placement with RAPs.
- Through Goal 3 activities, AC will improve data sharing and data integrity. Key activities include submitting a data-sharing MOU to USDOL, collaborating with the South Carolina Technical College System’s IT office, and technical college IT departments on data alignment.

Tier II Innovation Goals and Activities: Six Goals (\$6,541,000)

- Category A – Goal 1: Identify and implement specific TA strategies that change existing or create new effective process, and/or services, in the delivery of TA to sponsors for the purpose of increasing efficiency, improving overall impact, and removing barriers to expanding RAPs.

- Category B – Goal 2: Launch or expand sector strategy(ies) to expand RAPS to new industries and/or new non-traditional occupations within existing sectors.
- Category B – Goal 3: Launch or expand sector strategy(ies) to expand RAPs to new occupations in traditional industries. Efforts should demonstrate how existing apprenticeship sponsors may expand and scale their programs by including new occupations with their enterprise (e.g. IT apprentices within a manufacturing employer).
- Category D – Goal 4: Incorporate specific strategies to support or expand youthRAP development and/or scaling existing programs.
- Category E – Goal 5: Establish or expand the role of the business services representative /apprenticeship navigator with the promotion of apprenticeship to partner systems (e.g. education, workforce, economic development).
- Category E – Goal 6: Increase integration and alignment with existing Community Workforce Development boards and their partners, to include alignment with state and local plans.
- Set a goal of at least 25 percent growth of new apprentices registered above the current State baseline during the life of the grant
- One innovation using Internet, software, and other technological resources to improve RAP marketing/promotion, business outreach, apprenticeship standards development, and apprenticeship access for underrepresented populations
- Develop 5-year plan making RAP a central workforce development strategy for employers within the State.

Short Project Summary: AC has developed multiple strategies and activities to meet all six Tier II goals. Tier II activities will include developing new resources and online tools for employers and apprentices, training staff and partners on RAPs, expanding RAPs to non-traditional industries and occupations, and building infrastructure to support RAP partnerships at the local levels. AC will develop a five-year plan to support RAPs as a primary workforce development tool in S.C.

Some of the main activities include: 1) Developing and implementing a technical assistance plan to support employers in registering apprentices, 2) Building additional capacity to support employers and apprentices through creating new roles, 3) Developing new outreach campaigns to expand RAPs to non-traditional industries and youth RAPs, 4) Developing new RAPs and youth RAPs, and 5) Enhancing alignment with local workforce investment boards and state and local plans.

The strategies will support 25% growth in S.C.'s baseline, which will add 3,463 new apprentices in S.C. over three years. In addition, AC will develop online tools to support potential apprentices and employers with access RAPs. Examples include a new youth apprenticeship app and statewide youth apprenticeship application.