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| OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP  BULLETIN | **NO.**  2022-73 |
| **DATE**  April 14, 2022 |

**TO:** NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS

OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP STAFF

STATE APPRENTICESHIP AGENCIES

**FROM:** JOHN V. LADD /s/

Administrator, Office of Apprenticeship

**SUBJECT:** Recognition of Tennessee as a New State Apprenticeship Agency (SAA)

1. **Purpose.** To inform the staff of Office of Apprenticeship (OA) and the State Apprenticeship Agencies (SAA), Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) sponsors and other Registered Apprenticeship partners of the recognition of Tennessee as a new SAA. The Tennessee Labor and Workforce Development Office of Apprenticeship will now be the Registration Agency for Federal purposes in the state of Tennessee.
2. **Action Requested.** The OA staff should familiarize themselves with this bulletin. Both existing and potential Registered Apprenticeship (RA) program sponsors should familiarize themselves with this bulletin and any process changes or modifications that are driven by this transition.
3. **Summary and Background.**
   1. Summary – The application for recognition of Tennessee as a SAA was submitted by Holly Free-Ollard, State Apprenticeship Director, on behalf of the Tennessee Labor and Workforce Development Office of Apprenticeship. OA Administrator, John Ladd, approved Tennessee as the Registration Agency for Federal purposes consistent with 29 CFR 29.13 on March 29, 2022.
   2. Background – Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) may be registered and overseen by one of two entities: the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) OA or a recognized State Apprenticeship Agency. Both entities share some similar functions such as the provision of technical assistance and support to program sponsors, connection of businesses to training providers, and the sharing of information surrounding available funding opportunities for apprenticeship. However, once registered as an SAA the State’s role and responsibilities expand and/or change in the following ways:

* Recognized by OA to act on behalf of DOL to register and oversee programs in the recognized State;
* Apprenticeship staff members are state employees;
* May modify forms and other documentation to satisfy State requirements; and
* May use a separate system for capturing and housing apprenticeship data or may continue to utilize RAPIDS.

1. **Inquiries.** If you have any questions about this bulletin please contact Andrew Ridgeway, Division Director, Registered Apprenticeship and Policy, at (202) 693-3536 or [Ridgeway.Andrew@dol.gov](mailto:Ridgeway.Andrew@dol.gov). If you have questions for the Tennessee Labor and Workforce Development Office of Apprenticeship, please contact State Director, Holly Free-Ollard at (615)532-0148 or Holly.Free-Ollard@tn.gov.