



ILLINOIS  
WORKFORCE  
INNOVATION  
BOARD

APPRENTICESHIP ILLINOIS COMMITTEE  
QUARTERLY REPORT  
MAY 2023

## Charges and Priorities

### Committee Charges

Charge 1: Fully integrate apprenticeship into state workforce development, education, and economic development strategies and programs.

Charge 2: Support the rapid development of new apprenticeship programs and/or the significant expansion of existing programs.

Charge 3: Support the development and recruitment of a diverse pipeline of apprentices.

Charge 4: Build state capacity to make it easier for businesses to start apprenticeship programs and for apprentices to access opportunities.

### Committee Priorities:

Priority 1: Expanding apprenticeships geographically and to new industries.

Priority 2: Increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in apprenticeship.

Priority 3: Formalizing statewide apprenticeship coordination across partnering state agencies.

Priority 4: The growing statewide capacity to provide apprenticeship opportunities to job seekers and businesses.



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**Workgroups**

Workgroup Title	Workgroup Chair(s)	Workgroup Charge	Workgroup Priorities
<b>Marketing</b>	Tony Fuhrmann	Continue to expand brand awareness for Apprenticeship Illinois through strategic marketing and outreach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversee the creation of communications messaging and materials and make recommendations for professional-grade communications for Apprenticeship Illinois.</li> <li>Oversee development and implementation of Apprenticeship Illinois stakeholder engagement events.</li> </ul>
<b>Pre-Apprenticeship</b>	Manny Rodriguez	Expand pre-apprenticeship opportunities statewide and in multiple sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach about newly approved pre-apprenticeship definition</li> <li>Continue to focus on barriers and challenges for targeted populations to enter and succeed in pre-apprenticeships</li> <li>Expand understanding of pre-apprenticeship</li> <li>Advocate for the data collection on pre-apprenticeships</li> </ul>
<b>Youth Apprenticeship</b>	Dr. Lazaro (Laz) Lopez	Facilitate expansion of quality Youth Apprenticeships in Illinois	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement “Recommendations for Expansion of Youth Apprenticeships in Illinois.”</li> <li>support the rapid development of new youth apprenticeship programs and/or the significant expansion of existing programs;</li> <li>Monitor federal opportunities for Youth Apprenticeship Funding</li> </ul>





## Quarterly Updates

### Committee Update

The Apprenticeship Illinois Committee of the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board continues to focus on its charges by providing guidance on apprenticeship policy throughout the state and encouraging apprenticeships in new locations and sectors. The committee is revising its charges and work plan to include more diversity, equity, inclusion, and access. The Apprenticeship Illinois Committee has formed a group charged with creating the committee's new work plan. This group has met once and will continue to meet until the committee establishes and confirms the work plan.

The committee has started preparation for National Apprenticeship Week. The marketing workgroup leads this charge. National Apprenticeship Week is a celebration held in November annually. The entire committee, including its workgroups, prepares for the celebratory week starting in April.

### Marketing Workgroup Update

The marketing workgroup continues to lead the preparation efforts for National Apprenticeship Week (NAW). The group has started working on the proclamation, webinar schedule, NAW timeline, and other NAW efforts.

The group continues to look for content to make short videos. The group is also looking for new members. As of May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the social media statistics are as follows: **Facebook-300 Followers, Twitter- 45 Followers, Instagram-65 Followers, and LinkedIn-1057 Followers.**

### Pre-Apprenticeship Workgroup Update

This group has been working on a "Barriers and Next Steps for Expansion of Pre-Apprenticeship" document. They have identified five barriers to expansion and recommended the next steps for each barrier. The group's chair, Manny Rodriguez, will present the finished document to the Apprenticeship Illinois Committee at the next meeting.

### Youth Apprenticeship Workgroup Update

This group is currently in recess. However, the group has produced content for the Apprenticeship Illinois website. The Youth Apprenticeship page has been launched on Apprenticeship Illinois' website.





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## Workplan Updates

### Committee Workplan:

The committee has established a group of volunteers to assist committee leadership with revising the work plan to include DEIA components and to reflect the current needs of apprenticeship in Illinois.

### *Alignment with Unified State Plan*

#### **Activity 3.4: Promote the Use of All Types of Apprenticeships**

The committee continues to promote the use of all types of apprenticeships, including youth and pre-apprenticeships. This promotion occurs via social media channels, a monthly apprenticeship bulletin, and all other available avenues. The committee is actively updating the work plan and charges to reflect the current needs of apprenticeships in Illinois.

## Areas of Collaboration

No collaboration plans exist currently. This is a major area of interest in the new work plan.



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