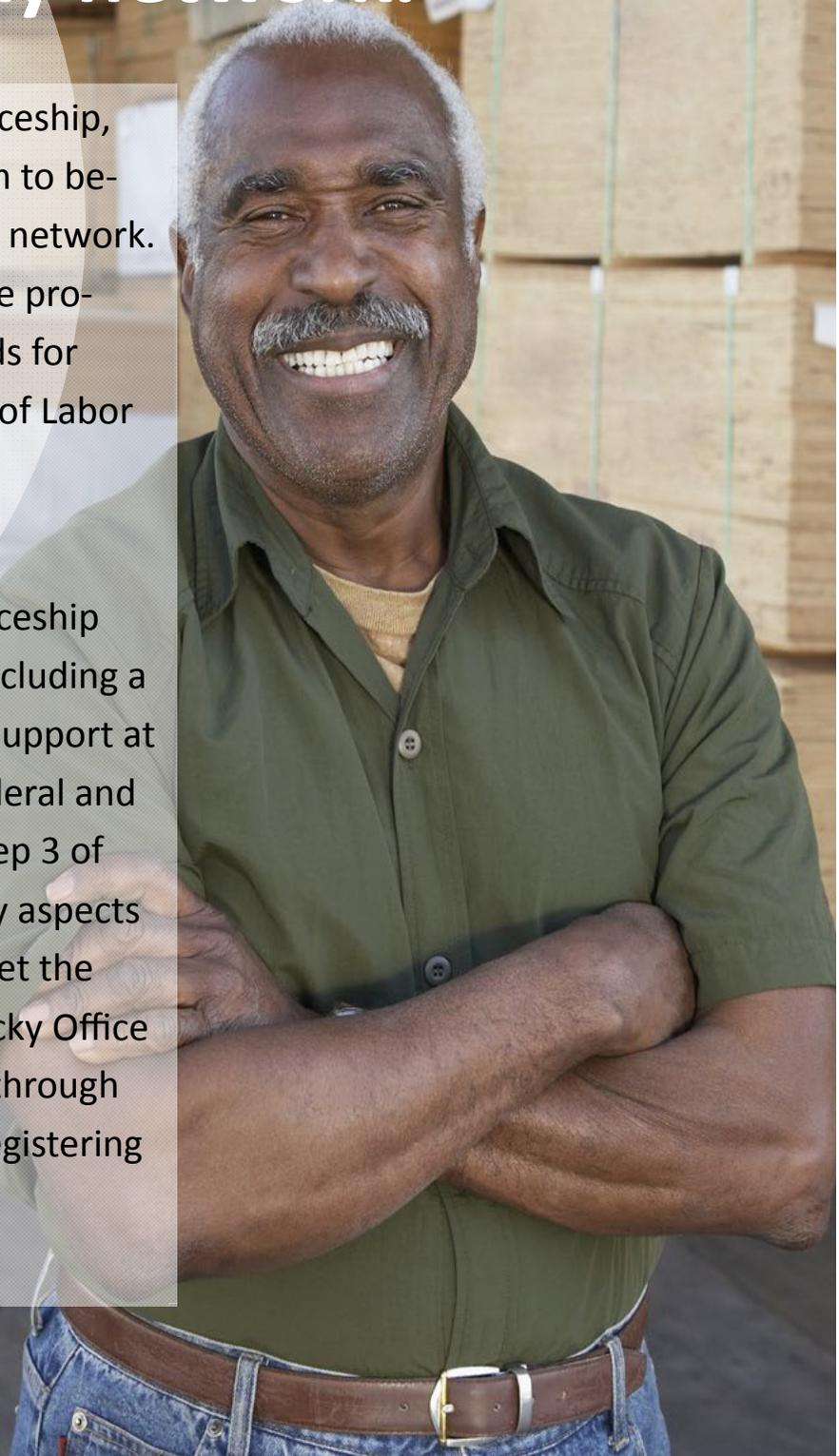


## 4

# Register your program to join the ApprenticeshipUSA Kentucky network.

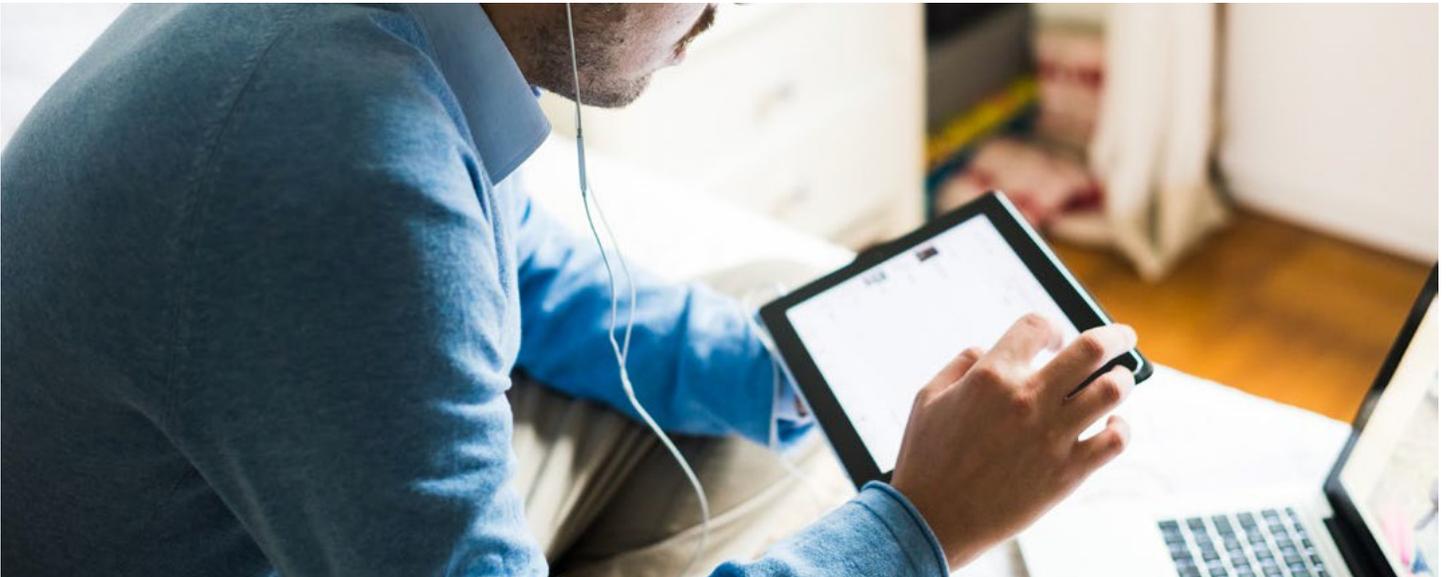
Now that you have built your apprenticeship, the next step is to register the program to become a part of the ApprenticeshipUSA network. ApprenticeshipUSA programs are those programs that have met national standards for registration with the U.S. Department of Labor and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Businesses that register their apprenticeship programs can access many benefits, including a nationwide network of expertise and support at no cost and potential funding from federal and state programs. The information in Step 3 of this toolkit can help you design the key aspects of your apprenticeship program to meet the standards for registration. The Kentucky Office of Apprenticeship can help guide you through the process of building and formally registering your program.



# Why is it important to register your apprenticeship program?

- ◆ Technical Assistance and Support. The program joins the ApprenticeshipUSA network, which provides access to a nationwide network of expertise, customer service, and support at no charge.
- ◆ National Credential. Graduates of Registered Apprenticeship programs receive a national, industry-recognized credential, recommended and backed by the employer and issued by the Kentucky Office of Apprenticeship with full support of the U.S. Department of Labor
- ◆ Quality Standards. Registration means the program has met national and independent standards for quality and rigor. Registration tells prospective employees, customers and suppliers that you invest in your workforce and that you believe your employees are your most important asset.
- ◆ Potential for national, state and local financial incentives as part of the ApprenticeshipUSA network.
- ◆ Federal Resources. Businesses and apprentices can access funding and other resources from many federal programs to help support their Registered apprenticeship programs.



## Apprenticeship in the Skilled Trades...

“As apprentices become journeymen, they take pride in the hard work they’ve put in, and they understand the importance of passing the knowledge and skills they’ve developed on to the next generation of apprentices that come behind them. That’s what Registered Apprenticeship is all about.”

*Chris Haslinger, United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the U.S. , Canada and Australia.*

## What federal resources are available to support Registered Apprenticeship programs?

- ◆ Over \$1 billion for employment and training services is available through Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act programs across the country. These programs can provide training funds to support on-the-job training and related instruction, as well as provide supportive services to help apprentices.
- ◆ Apprentices may be eligible for Federal Financial Aid under certain circumstances. If the apprenticeship is connected to a school's program of study, then apprentices may be eligible for Pell Grants. \$3,000 on average per apprentice and the school may choose to provide federal work-study grants, \$2,000 on average per apprentice.
- ◆ By becoming approved for the GI Bill, Registered apprenticeship programs can assist their current and future Veteran apprentices with the benefits they've earned. Veterans who qualify for the GI Bill can receive a monthly stipend (paid by the Veteran Affairs), in addition to the wages they receive in an apprenticeship. Registered Apprenticeship program sponsors can be certified under the GI Bill usually within 30 days.



## What state resources are available to support Registered Apprenticeship programs?

- ◆ Bluegrass State Skills Corporation grant funds are available for employers on a competitive basis for training the workforce of a Kentucky employer.
- ◆ The states Workforce Innovation Board and local Workforce Innovation Boards have funding available to assist with on-the-job training and specific needs of the apprentice.
- ◆ ??? Work ready scholarships
- ◆ Tax credits?

## What technical assistance can I expect from the Kentucky Office of Apprenticeship?

- ◆ Once we have discussed with your team the training needs of your facility, we will recommend a particular occupation or occupations which are accepted as apprenticeable.
- ◆ We will assist you with a basic outline of the work processes which must be met in order to provide the industry-wide, nationally recognized certification as well as the related classroom instruction curriculum which must be provided throughout the program.
- ◆ We will work with you to match up the required work processes with customization that best suits your workforce training needs.
- ◆ We will discuss the different options available for delivering the related instructions as well as making the contacts between you and the providing entity
- ◆ We will assist you with partnering with the local school system, the local community college, the local area development district, the local workforce innovation board and other ApprenticeshipUSA leaders in your area to assist in providing the most positive experience possible in developing and implementing your program.
- ◆ You will be provided with training in order to utilize the RAPIDS system for registering your apprentices with the Kentucky Office of Apprenticeship.
- ◆ We will work with you to develop the most efficient means to document your program and the progress of your apprentices.
- ◆ We will provide continuing technical assistance in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor throughout your programs existence.

# Exploring Youth Apprenticeship

Kentucky's nationally recognized youth apprenticeship program is a partnership between the Kentucky Office of Apprenticeship and the Office of Career and Technical Education. Tech Ready Apprentices for Career in Kentucky (TRACK) was developed as employers expressed their need for a skilled, work ready pool of potential employees.

The TRACK model was based upon the principle that students in the Kentucky Department of Education's secondary technology centers were learning the basic occupational skills which were already a part of Registered Apprenticeship program curriculum. Upon graduation, many students were entering registered programs which were duplicating the efforts that the students had accomplished in their technical courses.

The TRACK model pairs the employer, who is sponsoring a Registered Apprenticeship program, with the technology center, to offer the curriculum the employer mandates for a beginning apprentice.

The apprentice is hired by the employer, completes the instruction developed in conjunction with the employer and the school, and performs on-the-job training at the employer's location as part of the TRACK career pathway. Many courses are eligible for dual or articulated credit by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. When combined with the Registered Apprenticeship related classroom instruction, the result is an Associate's Degree upon completion of the apprenticeship and most of the time much sooner than the traditional two years.

This career pathway is credited in the college and career ready accountability model in and results in an industry certificate. The benefits for employers are a direct line of potential employees who are specifically trained in the skill sets required of the employer, effectively decreasing the time it takes to train their workforce.

