

Youth Resource Connections

NEWSLETTER

Youth Resource Connections

is a monthly newsletter that provides information, resources, and tools to workforce professionals who work every day to impact the lives of youth and young adults.

Table of Contents

Headlines	1-5
Success Story	6
Funding & Other Opportunities	7-8
Resources.....	9-12
Upcoming Events.....	12

Headlines

ETA Announces Availability of Webcast Showcasing WIOA Youth Program Resources. The Employment and Training Administration's Division of Youth Services has released a new webcast entitled: **WIOA Youth Program Resource Refresher**. This webcast was developed to share the wealth of WIOA Youth program resources available on the Youth Connections Community of Practice! Listen and learn where to find these technical assistance tools at: <https://youth.workforcegps.org/resources/2019/04/25/20/08/A-Brief-Webcast-Showcasing-WIOA-Youth-Program-Resources>.

On April 29, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) hosted a webinar entitled: **A WIOA Youth Program Technical Assistance Conversation: What do we have and what do we need?** During the webinar ETA's Division of Youth Services staff reviewed those essential Technical Assistance (TA) resources to ensure the youth workforce development field knows what resources are available to assist them in delivering comprehensive services to youth. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: <https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2019/03/28/14/11/A-WIOA-Youth-Program-Technical-Assistance-Conversation-What-do-we-have-and-what-do-we-need>.

Looking for more information and resources to support your youth program?



Visit the **Youth Connections Community of Practice** for the latest training, promising practices, and technical assistance tools.

Headlines

(continued)

U.S. Department of Labor Holds Strengthening America's Workforce Event to Discuss Paths for Americans Transitioning from Justice System to Workforce. On April 1 U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta was joined by Americans from around the nation to discuss pathways for those exiting the justice system to reenter the workforce. The event – Strengthening America's Workforce – included remarks from Secretary Acosta, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Labor Patrick Pizzella, U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D., and Governor of Kentucky Matt Bevin. Additionally, the event held a panel focusing on the challenges faced by individuals attempting to reenter the workforce from the justice system as well as discussions regarding the current policy and grants landscape. Strengthening America's Workforce is part of the Department's ongoing efforts to reduce recidivism and fill open jobs. In FY 2017 and 2018, the Department has announced \$170 million in reentry project grants for nonprofits, state and local governments, and Indian and Native American entities that design and implement workforce reentry programs. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20190401>.

U.S. Department of Labor Announces New Tool to Help Employers Understand Mental Health Issues and Create Supportive Workplaces. The U.S. Department of Labor has launched a new resource that helps employers better understand mental health issues, and provides guidance on how to cultivate a work environment that supports employees with related conditions. Created in coordination with the Department's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) and its [Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion](#) (EARN), the [Mental Health Toolkit](#) is an online gateway to background, tools, and resources for employers. It provides valuable information and guidance for employers seeking to offer a mental health-friendly workplace. The Mental Health Toolkit also provides summaries of research on workplace mental health, descriptions of mental-health initiatives implemented by companies of varying sizes and industries, and links to ready-to-use resources employers can use to start their own. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190403>.

DOL and Scholastic Announces Availability of Materials to Guide Middle School Students in Career and Apprenticeship Exploration. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) has collaborated with Scholastic to develop materials to introduce middle school students, parents, and teachers to future careers and apprenticeship opportunities. It's never too early for middle school students to start thinking about their future careers and learn how youth apprenticeship opportunities can serve as a foundation for jumpstarting a career. The materials feature testimonials from real youth apprentices, classroom activities to help students explore their passions, and career conversation starters for parents. To share and download materials visit the [Scholastic's apprenticeship webpage](#). To learn more about youth apprenticeship programs visit Apprenticeship.gov.

Headlines

(continued)

ETA Issues TEGL 16-18 -- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Activities Program Allotments for Program Year (PY) 2019; Final PY 2019 Allotments for the Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES) Program Allotments; and the Allotments of Workforce Information Grants to States for PY 2019. The Employment and Training Administration has published Training and Employment Guidance Letter 16-18. The TEGL provides information to states and outlying areas on WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Activities program allotments for PY 2019; final PY 2019 allotments for the Wagner-Peyser Act ES Program, as required by section 6(b)(5) of the Wagner-Peyser Act, as amended; and the allotments of Workforce Information Grants to states for PY 2019. To obtain additional information, visit: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=8335.

ETA Issues TEGL 11-16, Change 1 -- YouthBuild Compliance with Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA). The Employment and Training Administration has published Training and Employment Guidance Letter 11-16, Change 1. This TEGL notifies addressees that the link to the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Labor Standards and Enforcement Regional Staff Contacts has changed. To obtain additional information, visit: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=3404.

ETA Issues (TEN) No. 24-18 -- Updated Promising Practices in Achieving Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity: A Section 188 Disability Reference Guide. The Employment and Training Administration has published Training and Employment Notice 24-18. The TEN provides an updated version of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Section 188 Disability Reference Guide to American Job Center (AJC) programs. The guide also illustrates promising practices that correlate with specific nondiscrimination and equal opportunity requirements in Section 188 of WIOA and its implementing regulations. To obtain additional information, visit: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?docn=8681.

ED Seeks Comments on High School and Beyond 2020 Base-Year Full-Scale Study Recruitment and Field Test. The U.S. Department of Education's (ED) National Center for Education Statistics has published a request in the March 19 Federal Register seeking comments on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request that is described below. ED is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. **Comments Due: May 20.**

Headlines

(continued)

ED Invites Comment on Proposed Revisions for the 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The Federal Student Aid Office within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) has published a request in the [April 3 Federal Register](#) seeking comments on the proposed revisions for the 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This helps ED assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand ED's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. **Comments due: June 3.**

ED Invites Comments for its 2019-20 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study Institution Collection. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) within the U.S. Department of Education has published a request in the [April 9 Federal Register](#) seeking comments on its 2019-20 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:20). The study is a nationally representative cross-sectional study of how students and their families finance education beyond high school in a given academic year. **Comments due: June 10.**

ED Invites Comments for its Native American Career and Technical Education Program. The Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) has published a request in the [April 10 Federal Register](#) seeking comments on its Native American Career and Technical Education Program. The Department is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records. **Comments due: May 10.**

HUD Invites Comments on Data Collection for Youth Homelessness. The Office of Community Planning and Development in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has published a request in the [April 9 Federal Register](#) seeking comments on the data collection for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program. The information to be collected will be used to rate applications, to determine eligibility for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program and establish grant amounts. Applicants, which must be state or local governments, or nonprofit organizations will respond to narrative prompts to demonstrate their experience and expertise in providing housing and services to youth experiencing homelessness and to describe their intended program design, that will address the needs for housing and services that will result in housing placement and sufficient income to ensure housing is maintained once assistance discontinues. **Comments due: June 10.**

Headlines

(continued)

NJ Labor Department Launches \$2M Summer Youth Employment Program. The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development's (NJLWD) Office of Youth Programs has awarded \$2 million to seven counties and the City of Newark to provide teens and young adults in high-unemployment areas with paid summer internships. The Summer Youth Employment Pilot Program (SYEPP) seeks to mitigate youth poverty, unemployment, and crime rates by providing in-school and out-of-school youth, ages 16-24, with summer employment meant to encourage a successful transition to the workforce. The program aims to partner with public and private employers in high-growth industries to provide opportunities to the participants. Besides learning new skills and being introduced to new career options, the interns will be taught the basics of work, including employee benefits, pay schedules, attendance, and dress code. Their work experience will also cover soft skills training such as financial literacy, resume building, entrepreneurship skills, diversity training, and prevention of workplace harassment training. To view the press release, visit: https://nj.gov/labor/lwdhome/press/2019/20190409_syep.pdf.

Colorado's Efforts to Align Education and Workforce Needs in Rural Communities. The American Youth Policy Forum released this blog, which discusses how state leaders improve the alignment between education, business, and the workforce as they prepare students for the future. This is a challenging quest, especially in rural areas, highlighting as it does the issue of providing all students with equitable educational opportunities. Dr. Loretta Goodwin, AYPF Deputy Director, noted she was heartened by the grappling with these issues on a recent AYPF study tour to Colorado Springs, Colorado. Through discussions with state, district, and school leaders, site visits to the Career Technical Education Facility in the Peyton School District and the Manufacturing Industry Learning Lab in the Widefield School District, and conversations with students and teachers, participants learned about policies that are preparing students with the content knowledge and 21st century skills necessary for postsecondary success. To view the full blog, visit: <https://www.aypf.org/blog/colorados-efforts-to-align-education-and-workforce-needs-in-rural-communities/>.

Success Story

New Hampshire Jobs for America's Graduates

Hannah came to the Jobs for New Hampshire Graduates program less than a year ago. When she first started working with NH-JAG she had explained that her entire family moved to the Mid-West spontaneously, leaving her here in New Hampshire alone. This occurrence happened while Hannah was supposed to be finishing high school. The stress, demands and pressures of life on her own ultimately led to her dropping out. In order to pay her rent, Hannah was working at a fast food chain sometimes putting in overtime hours well above a normal full time job. When meeting with NH-JAG staff, she often vented about the toxic work environment and mental stress attained from the negative work culture she existed in. Hannah expressed a strong desire to move on to a better work environment and was thinking ahead and planning to do so. In order to leave her current job, she needed to find another position to replace it. Hannah ultimately wanted a career job. She aspired to feel proud of her job title. From the very start Hannah displayed an unparalleled loyalty and dedication to success. These traits assured NH-JAG of Hannah's ability to excel in the program. In the program, Hannah showed commitment and devotion to learning. Halfway through her course, she experienced moments of self-doubt. Through her relationship with NH-JAG staff she started practicing self-care and stress management mechanisms that aided her in completing her LNA program, attaining a LNA license and ultimately completing her high school equivalency – "HISET." The day she was able to leave her dead end job indefinitely was a day of ultimate celebration and joy. Hannah is now employed full time at NH-JAG's clinical partner site Havenwood-Heritage Heights. When NH-JAG assisted Hannah in choosing benefits, this was a huge milestone for Hannah. She had finally realized she met her goal of obtaining a career position. She is an employee who wears her name badge proud, goes above and beyond, always asks for overtime and seeks ways to continually improve.

Interested in sharing a new practice or innovative approach that you're trying in your area?

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is interested in sharing strategies from across the country to promote peer learning and replication. If you would like to be considered for featuring in an upcoming newsletter, please email your organization, program name and brief description of the practice or approach to the ETA Division of Youth Services at: youth.services@dol.gov.

Funding & Other Opportunities

U.S. Department of Labor Announces Funding Opportunity For New Center For Employer-Focused Disability Policy and Technical Assistance. The U.S. Department of Labor announced the availability of approximately \$2 million in funds for the first year of a cooperative agreement for an employer-focused disability policy development and technical assistance center. The solicitation is a re-competition of an existing cooperative agreement. Administered by the Department's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), the funding opportunity anticipates the availability of approximately \$8 million in funds for a 4-year budget period (subject to the availability of federal funds at \$2 million per year). Seeking to build upon the prior work of ODEP's Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion (EARN), the new center will conduct research; engage with the business community; identify effective policies and practices that support business needs; and provide resources, technical assistance, and training to help public- and private-sector employers (including federal contractors) recruit, hire, retain, and advance individuals with disabilities. To obtain additional information see Grant Number: [FOA-ODEP-19-01](#). **Deadline: June 24.** To view the press release, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190422>.

HRSA Announces Funding Opportunity under the RCORP-Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion; Plans \$8 Million in Investment in Rural Communities. The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy has released a Notice of Funding Opportunity for a new Rural Communities Opioid Response Program initiative called RCORP-Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion (HRSA-19-102). HRSA plans to invest approximately \$8 million in rural communities as part of this funding opportunity. To obtain additional information see Grant Number: [HRSA-19-102](#). **Deadline: June 10.**

Juneau Community Foundation Invites Applications for Douglas-Dornan Foundation Fund. The [Juneau Community Foundation](#) is accepting applications for its Douglas-Dornan Foundation Fund. The fund is designed to support projects dedicated to enhancing the health, education, and welfare of residents of southeastern Alaska. Through the fund, grants will be awarded to organizations working to support and assist children, youth, elders, and/or special needs groups in the region. Grants will not be awarded to individuals seeking college tuition or money to be used for personal development. Grants will range between \$200 and \$4,000. [Read more...](#) **Deadline: June 1.**

Robbie Foundation Invites Applications for its Adaptive Equipment, Assisted Tech Program. The Robbie Foundation is accepting applications for its Adaptive Equipment, Assistive Technology, Therapy Treatment Program. The program is designed to support children with special needs from birth up to the age of 20 who are residents of Maine and would benefit from adaptive equipment, assistive technology, or therapy treatment and/or any other compulsory (or essential) item not covered by insurance or an additional funding source. Funding will be awarded for items and services that help maximize the child's growth and development, as well as create an easier and more enjoyable learning and/or living environment for the child. [Read more...](#) **Deadline: July 5.**

Funding & Other Opportunities

(continued)

Evergreen Foundation Invites Applications From North Carolina Disability Providers. The [Evergreen Foundation](#) is accepting applications from providers in North Carolina to provide programs and services for individuals with Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities. Providers located throughout Western North Carolina are eligible to apply. [Read more...](#) **Deadline: May 31.**

YSA Invites Applications for its Lead Agency Program. Youth Service America (YSA) is accepting applications for its 2019-2020 Lead Agency program. The program is designed to activate youth volunteers on 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance (September 11, 2019), Martin Luther King Day of Service (January 20, 2020), and Global Youth Service Day (April 17-19, 2020). Funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Lead Agency program offers youth development organizations, community-based organizations, and schools/school districts grant funding, capacity-building training, and ongoing support to effectively engage young people in meaningful service and civic action activities. [Read more...](#) **Deadline: June 14.**

Workforce Recruitment Program School Registration. Colleges and universities interested in offering their students with disabilities an opportunity for federal jobs can register to be part of the Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP). The WRP is a recruitment and referral program that connects federal- and private-sector employers nationwide with highly motivated college students and recent graduates with disabilities who are eager to demonstrate their abilities in the workplace through summer or permanent jobs. The WRP is the primary pipeline bringing college students and recent graduates with disabilities into federal employment. Schools that would like to participate in the WRP must be accredited by one of the accrediting agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. To register for the WRP, visit: <https://legacy.wrp.gov/LoginPre.do;jsessionid=6596A4F0A618E5E51C8D3E544BE4EA2F?method=login>. **Registration deadline for schools: June 28.**

Resources

EARN's Mental Health Toolkit: Resources for Fostering a Mentally Healthy Workplace. This [toolkit](#) created in coordination with the Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) and its [Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion](#) (EARN) is a gateway to background, tools and resources that can help employers learn more about mental health issues and cultivate a welcoming and supportive work environment for employees who may be facing mental health issues. It also presents an easy-to-follow framework for fostering a mental health-friendly workplace, all built around the "4 A's": Awareness, Accommodations, Assistance and Access.

Policy Toolkit: Today's Students. This [toolkit](#) released by Higher Learning Advocates provides fifteen common-sense policy recommendations that are designed to better serve the changing demographic of students pursuing higher education. It further offers support to meet the needs of a new generation of learners by breaking down financial barriers and increasing access to student supports.

Higher Education: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Accountability. This [document](#) released by the Government Accountability Office identified opportunities to strengthen federal higher education accountability in three areas: educational quality, financial stability, and federal student loan defaults.

Helping Parents Access Child Care for Education and Training. This [document](#) released by the Urban Institute offers a framework for state policies and practices connected to two key federal programs: the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Child Care Development Fund (CCDF). The framework is designed to be used by state administrators and other stakeholders to support access to child care so parents with low incomes can participate in education and training while supporting the development and education of their children.

College Enrollment and Work Activity of Recent High School Graduates. This [news release](#) by the Bureau of Labor Statistics highlights data that relates to the school enrollment status of persons in the civilian noninstitutional population in the calendar week that includes the 12th of October. Data about recent high school graduates and dropouts and the enrollment status of youth refer to persons 16 to 24 years of age. Data about recent associate degree recipients and college graduates refer to persons 20 to 29 years of age.

Resources

(continued)

How Aligned is Career and Technical Education to Local Labor Markets? This [resource](#) co-authored by Pepperdine University associate professor Cameron Sublett and Fordham Institute senior research and policy associate David Griffith, examines whether students in high school Career and Technical Education programs are more likely to take courses in high-demand and/or high-wage industries, both nationally and locally.

Destination Known: Valuing College AND Career Readiness in State Accountability Systems. This [report](#) from Education Strategy Group and the Council of Chief State School Officers provides a roadmap for the measures states can use in an accountability system to support all students in achieving success after high school, as well as strategies for putting that accountability system into practice.

Meet The Millions of Young Adults Who are Out of Work. This [report](#) and accompanying interactive data tool released by Brookings provides a unique perspective on young adults ages 18-24 who are out of work, focusing on those in mid to large cities and counties. There was usage of cluster analysis to segment out-of-work young adults into groups likely to benefit from similar types of employment and education-related assistance, based on factors such as educational attainment, work history, school enrollment, disability, English language proficiency, and family status.

Making the Connection: Transportation and Youth Disconnection. This [report](#) released by Measure of America presents the latest available data on disconnected youth—young people ages 16 to 24 who are not working or in school—for the United States as a whole as well as disconnection rates by gender, race and ethnicity, region, state, and metro area. The report also examines a key factor preventing young people from staying in school and the workforce: disparities in access to reliable and affordable transportation.

The Youth Opportunity Guarantee: A Framework for Success. This [report](#) released by Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality provides a roadmap that incorporates secondary, postsecondary, and employment systems aimed at making long-term labor market success a reality for all youth in the United States.

Reclaiming Digital Futures. This [guide](#) is a free web-based guide designed to help educators at out-of-school youth organizations leverage [five strategic areas](#) to integrate technology and digital learning into their programming and practices. One [resource](#) in the toolkit, for example, explains how to incorporate digital tools that align with an organization's specific goals.

Resources

(continued)

Youth Summer Jobs Community of Practice. This [online](#) destination allows workforce professionals, employers, and partners to find and share information about summer work for youth. The website features blogs, discussions, and resources for young adult summer learning, training, and working, as well a library of resources that cover a broader range of workforce training and career counseling topics.

FDIC Money Smart Podcast Network. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Money Smart Podcast Network consists of audio files that offer tips to help people make informed financial decisions and take charge of their finances. Examples of topics covered include: the basics of borrowing money wisely, using a spending plan to achieve financial goals, and how to use banking products effectively. To listen to the podcasts, visit: <https://moneysmart.fdic.gov/>.

Upcoming Webinars

On May 6 the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will host a webcast entitled: **Suicide Prevention: Strategies That Work.** The webcast will focus on evidence-based strategies and resources for preventing suicide among children, youth, and young adults. To view the webcast, visit: <https://www.hhs.gov/live>.

On May 7 the Office of Juvenile Justice's National Training and Technical Assistance Center will host a webinar entitled: **Homeless Youth Prevention.** During the webinar, presenters will provide a comprehensive and holistic view on supporting homeless youth. The webinar will review intervention strategies, how to interact with communities, and local homelessness systems, and conclude with a question and answer session. To register for the webinar, visit: https://events-na8.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1110525827/en/events/event/shared/default_template_simple/event_registration.html?sco-id=2579072063.

Resources

(continued)

Past Webinars

On April 16, CLASP hosted a discussion entitled: **A Conversation on Youth Economic Mobility, Equity, and Justice**. During the discussion speakers discussed the economic mobility, equity, and justice for young men and women of color. The event featured Congresswoman Lucy McBath and Georgia Shift's Ian Bridgeforth. To view a replay of the discussion, visit: <https://www.clasp.org/webcast-april-16-conversation-youth-economic-mobility-equity-and-justice>.

Upcoming Events

May 6. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's [National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day](#).



To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Youth Resource Connections Newsletter, visit: http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services and click the "Subscribe to E-mail Updates" button.

We welcome your input.

Please let us know how these newsletters might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments, contact the Employment and Training Administration's Division of Youth Services at **(202) 693-3030** or e-mail: youth.services@dol.gov.

The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non-endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the newsletter.