

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.

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Headlines

ETA Issues TEN No. 03-18: Creating Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs to Expand Opportunity in America. The Employment and Training Administration has published Training and Employment Notice No. 03-18. In June 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order (E.O.) on Expanding Apprenticeships in America, which lays out an expanded vision for apprenticeship in America. This Training and Employment Notice provides a framework for an important part of this expanded approach: industry-recognized apprenticeship programs. This new initiative encourages trade and professional associations, employers, educational institutions, unions, labor-management organizations, states, and other third parties to collaborate to create new, industry-driven apprenticeship solutions. To obtain additional information, visit: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=5367.

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)

ETA Issues TEGL No. 07-14, Change 1: Updated Guidance for Implementing the Construction Plus Component of the YouthBuild Program, as authorized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The Employment and Training Administration has published Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 07-14, Change 1 which provides further guidance for YouthBuild grantees implementing the Construction Plus component of the YouthBuild program, including a synopsis of what it entails, and provides further clarity to workforce partners about the Construction Plus model. To obtain additional information, visit: https://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=5889

NASA Awards \$1.4M to Help Minority-Serving Colleges Develop New STEM Courses. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) has selected five community colleges for awards totaling \$1.4 million to help the schools establish new courses that will contribute to the preparation, training and development of NASA's future workforce. The MUREP Innovations in Space Technology Curriculum (MISTC) awards align with the priorities of the agency's Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD), which is responsible for developing the crosscutting, pioneering new technologies and capabilities the agency needs for current and future missions. To obtain additional information, visit: <https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/nasa-gives-1-4-million-to-help-minority-serving-colleges-develop-new-stem-courses-1027408206>.

American Youth Policy Forum Posts Blog: From Foster Care to College: An Uphill Battle. The American Youth Policy Forum released a blog, which discusses the lack of accessibility to college for students who have been involved with the foster care system. These students face unique challenges that can make postsecondary education unobtainable without the right support. As a result, less than half of this cohort will graduate with a high school diploma, and less than three percent will go on to complete a bachelor's degree. To view the blog, visit: <http://www.aypf.org/college-and-career-readiness/blog-from-foster-care-to-college/>.

Idaho PTV Launches "American Graduate: Getting to Work". Idaho Public Television announced the launch of American Graduate: Getting to Work, a career readiness initiative that will produce local content focused on helping young people obtain the skills needed for high-demand jobs. Preparing workers for so-called "middle-skills" jobs, which require training but not a four-year college degree, is becoming a priority in many communities. Over the next two years, new locally produced content will be added to the American Graduate website: <http://idahoptv.org/americangraduate/> and shared on social media. Content will include video interviews with Idaho students, employers, teachers, counselors and parents sharing stories and information to help young people navigate the paths to their chosen careers. To obtain additional information, visit: <https://idahoptvblog.wordpress.com/2018/07/31/americangraduate-helps-prepare-young-idahoans-for-high-demand-jobs/>.

Headlines

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AHLEF Awards Record-Breaking \$1.3 Million In Scholarships. The [American Hotel & Lodging Educational Foundation](#) (AHLEF), the philanthropic arm of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA), announced \$1.3 million was awarded via 420 scholarships this year – the highest amount ever awarded to students seeking a career in the hospitality industry. More than 70 percent of scholarship recipients are women, and more than one-third of the total recipients are minority students. For more information about AHLEF scholarships and other programs, visit www.ahlef.org. To view the press release, visit: <https://www.ahla.com/press-release/ahlef-awards-record-breaking-13-million-scholarships>.

Gap Inc. Expands its Job Program for Opportunity Youth to 53 Cities, Introduces Year-Round Hiring Strategy. Gap Inc. announced plans to significantly expand [This Way Ahead](#), its life skills and on-the-job training program for Opportunity Youth, from 15 cities in 2017 to 53 cities globally. Launched in 2007 for 16 to 24-year-olds from low-income communities, the company is rolling out new partnerships with non-profit organizations and introducing program models that will enable it to operate year-round. Based on the program's proven results to attract and retain highly-engaged employees, the company plans to hire five percent of all new entry-level store employees from the program by 2025. To obtain additional information, visit: <https://corporate.gapinc.com/en-us/articles/2018/08/gap-inc-expands-its-job-program-for-opportunity-yo>.

7-Second Resumes Go to Canada! Grads of Life joined Starbucks Canada and [Youth Employment Services](#) (YES!) to facilitate the first-ever 7-Second Resume event in Canada! Over 60 Canadian youth attended the event, where they learned ways to build a stronger LinkedIn profile, took professional headshots, and worked with coaches to craft their 7-second resume statements. To watch 7-Second Resume videos, visit: <http://7seconds.gradsoflife.org/>.

ACTE Announces Availability of “STEM Parent Program.” The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) recently announced the STEM Parent Program letting families launch a career exploration experience to help their students prepare for jobs in the fast-growing “New Collar” skilled workforce in fields like manufacturing, technology, cyber and beyond. Parents who subscribe will give their students access to STEM LifeJourney mentors through a year-long mobile app experience. To obtain additional information and view the program, visit: https://www.actestemparent.com/?utm_source=referral&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=acte_press_release.

Success Story

Career Pathway Summer Grant Achievement



Richette, an alumni of the Philadelphia Works (PW) and the Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN), Career Pathway Hub program shares her program experiences. Richette's reported that her interest in the program was to receive support that would not only help her explore her career options, but also provide her with the stability needed to

achieve her goals of becoming a lawyer. She enrolled at the Community College of Philadelphia fall of 2017 with plans of transferring to a 4-year college and has successfully completed her first year of college spring 2018. During her time in the Hub program, she began a Paid Work Experience in summer 2017 at Philadelphia Youth Network and has since transitioned into full-time employment with the organization. She stated that the Hub program has prepared her for working in an office setting and has supported her in connecting to resources that help her develop as a young professional in the workplace.

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

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AAHD Accepting Applications for its 2018-19 Scholarships. The [American Association on Health and Disability](#) is accepting applications for its 2018-19 scholarship program. The program is designed to assist a student with a disability who is pursuing undergraduate/graduate studies related to health and disability. Awardees will receive scholarships of up to \$1,000 in late January/early February 2019. Eligible applicants must be enrolled full time as an undergraduate (freshman or beyond) or part or full time in graduate school, have a documented disability, and be able provide documentation of their disability. In addition, applicants must be a citizen or legal resident of the United States enrolled in an accredited U.S. university. [read more...](#) **Deadline: November 15.**

Resources

Becoming College-Ready. This [report](#) released by MDRC presents important early findings from MDRC and research partners' evaluation of the effectiveness of the City University of New York (CUNY) Start program. The program served students who placed into developmental education in one or more areas, and half of the study sample placed into remediation in math, reading, and writing. CUNY Start's effect on becoming "college-ready" is among the largest any of the partner organizations has found in evaluations of developmental education reforms. However, in line with CUNY Start's theory of change, students offered the program do not take college-level courses, and therefore fall behind in college credits earned before they matriculate. Additional data collection that is planned for the longer term will show whether this short-term trade-off is worthwhile.

Employment and Unemployment Among Youth -- Summer 2018. This [news release](#) by the Bureau of Labor Statistics provides the following statistical data: from April to July 2018, the number of employed youth 16 to 24 years old increased by 2.0 million to 20.9 million. This year, 55.0 percent of young people were employed in July, little changed from a year earlier. (The month of July typically is the summertime peak in youth employment.) The unemployment rate for youth was 9.2 percent in July, also little changed from July 2017. (Because this analysis focuses on the seasonal changes in youth employment and unemployment that occur each spring and summer, the data are not seasonally adjusted.)

Resources

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Youth and the Labor Force: Background and Trends. This [report](#) released by the Congressional Research Service provides context for Congress on trends in the labor force for youth. It discusses youth labor force data since 1948, with a focus on the period from 2000 to the present.

What Do We Know About Student Loans? Less Than You Think. This [report](#) released by the Center for American Progress explains that despite the fact that nearly 1 of every 5 American adults is saddled with student loan debt—a total of \$1.5 trillion—little is known about the various, often-treacherous paths borrowers take as they navigate repayment. [The landscape remains such a mystery because there are limited public data on student loans.](#) Limited public data not only stymies collective understanding of student loan debt, but it also allows for inaccurate narratives such as the assumption that high-debt borrowers are the ones who are in the most trouble. This could cause students to make poorly informed decisions about borrowing and policymakers to propose ineffective reforms.

Improving Outcomes for Justice-Involved Youth Through Structured Decision-Making and Diversion. This [issue brief](#) from the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform examines research on structured decision-making processes and juvenile diversion programs, with a focus on using risk and needs assessment tools and disposition matrices to effectively divert youth from the juvenile justice system.

Home, Together: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. This new [strategic plan](#) released by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) includes specific strategies to end homelessness among veterans, people with disabilities, families with children, and unaccompanied youth.

Why More Cities Should Offer Summer Jobs for Teens. This [article](#) featured in the Harvard Business Review, highlights the concern that as of July 2018, the U.S. unemployment rate for teens remains high at 13.1% — more than twice the rate of any other group. Even more worrisome has been the decline in the share of teens participating in the labor force, which now stands at 37.1% — far below the historical peak of 59.3% in August 1978. Teen employment has fallen for two reasons. For some teens, working has been replaced by other activities such as coding camps, preparing for academic tests, or travel — all of which look good on a college application. But for those who might not be college-bound, it appears that fewer pathways exist to enter the labor market. Early work experience is an important tool for enhancing the future employment prospects and earnings potential of low-income youth — and summer jobs play a big role here. By facilitating the transition from school to the labor force, summer jobs can help students apply what they learn in school, acquire work-related skills, and develop contacts with employers. These jobs can also help firms seeking to diversify and expand their talent pipelines.

Resources

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JAN Announces Updated to Website. The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) has launched a newly updated website. It provides a more user-friendly layout with easier access to JAN's publications, toolkits, training modules, and other resources.

Upcoming Webinar

On September 7th, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to host an event entitled: [Youth with Co-Occurring Disorders and Suicide Risk Reduction](#). During the event presenters will discuss working with youth with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders.

On September 7th, the University of Maryland School of Social Work to host a webinar entitled: [Rural Behavioral Health Learning Community \(LC\): Implementation Resources and Support Available Through the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy](#). The webinar will discuss how this LC focuses on challenges and innovations in developing systems of care for children, youth, and young adults with significant needs and their families in rural areas. This webinar will educate participants about telehealth resources available through the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy and highlight three sites that have implemented innovative telehealth strategies with HRSA's support.

On September 18th, the American Youth Policy Forum to host a webinar entitled: [The Role of National Service in Improving K-12 Education Outcomes](#). The webinar will illustrate the role national service plays in helping communities design and implement locally determined, results-driven, cost-effective solutions to improve student outcomes. It will also feature program examples and ways that one can leverage national service in their own community.

Past Webinars

On September 5th, the Colorado Department of Vocational Rehabilitation hosted a webinar entitled: [A Dual-Customer Approach: Increasing business services partnerships and systematically using LMI for high-quality employment outcomes](#). During this webinar, participants learned how the Colorado Department of Vocational Rehabilitation is aligning and enhancing collaborations with their core WIOA partners, including the Workforce Center business services teams and sector initiatives, to leverage opportunities with businesses and create better opportunities for clients.

Resources

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On August 30th, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation hosted a webinar entitled: [Change Leads to Success: Sector-Driven Customized Training Solutions](#). During the webinar, presenters discussed how their job-driven project strengthened their alignment with workforce partners and led to sector strategies approaches. The integration of these new workforce development strategies led to a customized training initiative that resulted in successful employment for VR consumers.

On July 19th, the College and Career Readiness and Success Center hosted a webinar entitled: [Maximizing Postsecondary Outcomes for Students with Disabilities Through Systems Alignment](#). This webinar addressed the topic of how cross-agency and cross-system partnerships support career readiness for students with disabilities. Featured presenters included individuals from the Maine Department of Labor/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Department of Education.

In June 2018, The Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs hosted a webinar entitled: [Simplifying the Funding Search Process with youth.gov](#). The webinar provides information on finding and applying for federal grants for youth programs. Individuals can tour the youth.gov [funding information "center"](#) to learn how the [custom Grants.gov search tool](#), step-by-step guide, existing program [mapping feature](#), and [youth topics](#) sections can benefit their federal funding search.

Upcoming Events

September 2018. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's [National Recovery Month](#)

September 26-28. Washington, DC. [Global Youth Economic Opportunities Summit](#)

October 2018. [National Disability Employment Awareness Month 2018.](#)

October 2-4. Cape Cod, MA. [20th Global Youth Justice Training End of Summer Institute.](#)

October 8-9. Minneapolis, MN. Search Institute's [Strengthening Student Motivation Workshop.](#)

October 10-12. Louisville, KY. [National Career Pathways Network 2018 Conference](#)

December 12-14. Chicago, IL. National Association Workforce Development Professionals, [Youth Symposium 2018.](#)



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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.