

90-DAY TRUCKING APPRENTICESHIP CHALLENGE:

ACCESSING SUPPORT FROM YOUR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), White House, and U.S. Department of Transportation are addressing the critical need for workers in the trucking industry, as well as longer-term job quality and retention issues, through [The 90-Day Trucking Apprenticeship Challenge](#). The Challenge promotes registered apprenticeship as a proven model and industry solution for getting more well-trained drivers on the road.

FASTPORT, the USDOL Transportation and Logistics National Industry Intermediary and national partner on the USDOL Center of Excellence for Apprenticeship Partnerships and System Alignment, has taken the lead on the 90-Day Challenge. In addition to providing your company or association with a nationally-sponsored program option to join, they provide no-cost technical assistance and expert guidance on best practices and resources for developing a new or expanded apprenticeship program. One of the best local resources for to support your participation in the Trucking Apprenticeship Challenge is your local workforce development board (WDB) which can help find, train, and even help pay your apprentices and offset program costs.

WHAT IS A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD?

Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) are business-led entities of the public workforce system which is funded through your tax dollars. Their role is to support economic expansion, by supporting businesses, and develop the talent of the nation's workforce. To learn more about WDBs watch this short [video](#) - from the National Association of Workforce Boards - or check out this USDOL [Fact Sheet](#) that provides direct links to services for businesses,

Did You Know?

On average companies investing in registered apprenticeship earn \$1.47 for every \$1 invested?

Ninety-seven percent of businesses with programs would recommend apprenticeship to others?

94% of all apprentices are retained as full-time employees following completion and 91% are still with their employer after a year?

Source: USDOL



HOW CAN MY LOCAL WORKFORCE BOARD HELP?

By participating in the 90 Day Challenge your company can access a wide range of no-cost services and financial supports for your apprenticeship program from your local WDB including:

SERVICES

WDB staff can help your HR staff and hiring managers by:

- developing a talent pipeline for your open positions through:
 - developing job descriptions
 - posting jobs
 - hosting hiring events
 - recruiting and screening candidates
 - referring candidates that meet your hiring criteria
- providing supportive services to qualified apprentices to ensure that they are able to successfully complete your apprenticeship program
- providing referrals to partner services

FINANCIAL SUPPORTS

- On the Job Training (OJT) Reimbursement - Your local WDB provides OJT reimbursement to employers willing to hire, train and supervise new employees. OJT funds provide reimbursement to businesses of up to 50% of the wage rate for apprentices and in certain cases up to 75%, to help defray the costs of training your new apprentices.
- Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) - Your local WDB also may be able to assist you with wage support for current, full-time employees you wish to upskill through apprenticeship. IWT funding assistance is made available to companies who need to train incumbent workers to retain a skilled workforce, improve employee skills, increase their competitive position in their marketplace, and/or retain or avert incumbent worker layoffs.

HOW DO I REACH MY WDB?

This [link](#) provides contact information for the Executive Director of the WDB in your area. This is your first point of contact for requesting services from the WDB. Please note the board chair is also listed and may be a local businessperson that you know and can reach out to as well.

REACH OUT TODAY

When you are ready to reach out to your WDB, try using this email language to let them know you are ready to engage in their services:

Dear (insert name of Executive Director),

I'm (insert your name and role with your organization). (Explain in 2 - 3 sentences what your organization is about).

I'm contacting you today because my company is participating in the nationwide 90 Day Trucking Apprenticeship Challenge and I understand your board can help our organization connect your career seeker customers. I also understand that you offer On-the-Job Training and Incumbent Worker training services which could help provide support for our apprenticeship program. I would like to request a meeting with either yourself or your business services representative to specifically talk about how you could support us with the following:

- career seeker referrals (list any specific populations you would like to reach - i.e. Veterans, minorities)
- related training instruction tuition payment for those apprentices who qualify
- on-the-job learning and/or incumbent worker training funds for apprentices

Please let me know when you are available to talk. Thank you for supporting (your organization's name).

FASTPORT



TO LEARN MORE CONTACT:

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