

APPRENTICESHIP FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



GENERAL QUESTIONS

What is apprenticeship?

Apprenticeship combines paid on-the-job learning with formal classroom instruction to prepare workers for highly skilled careers. Upon completion, apprentices receive a portable, industry or nationally recognized credential, certificate, degree or credit toward a degree.

What are the different types of apprenticeship programs?

1. Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP) are registered with the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship. Registered programs meet quality standards and provide apprentices with a national, industry-recognized credential.
2. Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Programs (IRAP) are another option to increase apprenticeship programs in sectors where apprenticeship opportunities are not widespread. IRAPs may be available in all industries except construction. Apprentices receive an industry-recognized credential when they complete the program. (This program has been suspended for new development.)
3. Independent (non-registered) Apprenticeship Programs are developed internally by a specific company but are not registered or certified, so they are not reported or tracked and therefore the level of quality may be unknown.
4. Youth Apprenticeships and Pre-Apprenticeships are designed to link directly to existing registered apprenticeship programs and provide instruction, preparation and support necessary to advance participants to apprenticeship programs or careers. While youth apprenticeships are generally available for 16 and 17 year olds, pre-apprenticeships are available for both youth and adults.

Is an apprenticeship the same as an internship?

No, apprenticeships and internships are not the same. There are differences in length of time, structure, mentorship, pay, credentials and college credit. Apprenticeships are full-time employment combined with on-the-job learning and related classroom instruction. All registered apprenticeships are paid and result in a USDOL credential.

How long does an apprenticeship last?

The length of your apprenticeship program will vary depending on the occupation, employer, and complexity of the program. Generally, apprenticeships last between 12 months and four years.

What occupations have apprenticeship opportunities?

In Utah there are traditional apprenticeship openings in construction, manufacturing, automotive, telecommunications, transportation, and utilities, as well as non-traditional apprenticeships in technology and health care.