Manufacturer Interest in Apprenticeships Increases During COVID-19

Some important – and optimistic – news for manufacturing apprenticeship practitioners emerged from the Thomas Industrial Survey "COVID-19 Impacts on North American Manufacturing." A variety of industries provided insights on how current trends may affect apprenticeship programs. Some important highlights...

Confidence in a rebound: Nearly all respondents (91%) believe that the manufacturing sector will, in fact, recover, even though it may take some time to do so.

Value of apprenticeships: Many companies (52%) see enough value in their programs to keep them running during the pandemic, with interns working remotely or taking online classes. And sectors with higher apprenticeship adoption rates are less likely to be impacted by a lack of skilled labor.

Technology is a vital component: An important trend is the increased use of and investment in automation. For apprenticeship programs to keep pace, curricula will need to provide job seekers with in-demand technological skills.

Click here for the full report.

Reporting Requirements for First-Tier Sub-Awards

The Office of Management & Budget issued guidance identifying the requirement to report first-tier sub-awards on April 6, 2010 (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/open). That guidance defines a sub-award as generally referring to a monetary award made as a result of a Federal award to a grant recipient or contractor to a sub-recipient or sub-contractor respectively.

With the implementation of the Uniform Guidance in 2014, it is further defined in 2 CFR 200.92, "Sub-award means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program. A sub-award may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract [emphasis DOL]."

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) was signed on September 26, 2006, and was amended in 2008. The intent was to empower every American with the ability to hold the government accountable for each spending decision. As a result, one of the prime grantee responsibilities is also reporting on sub-awards through the FFATA Subaward Reporting System, or FSRS, located here. The general website with more information is here and there is also an Awardee User Guide available here. This is in accordance with 2 CFR Chapter 1, Part 170 Reporting Sub-Award And Executive Compensation Information available here:

"Prime Grant Recipients awarded a new Federal grant greater than or equal to $25,000 as of October 1, 2010 are subject to FFATA sub-award reporting requirements as outlined in the Office of Management and Budgets guidance issued August 27, 2010. The prime awardee is required to file a FFATA sub-award report by the end of the month following the month in which the prime recipient awards any sub-grant greater than or equal to $25,000. The reporting requirements are as follows:

- This requirement is for both mandatory and discretionary grants awarded on or after October 1, 2010.
All sub-award information must be reported by the prime awardee.
For those new Federal grants as of October 1, 2010, if the initial award is equal to or over $25,000, reporting of sub-award and executive compensation data is required.
- If the initial award is below $25,000 but subsequent grant modifications result in a total award equal to or over $25,000, the award will be subject to the reporting requirements, as of the date the award exceeds $25,000.
- If the initial award equals or exceeds $25,000 but funding is subsequently de-obligated such that the total award amount falls below $25,000, the award continues to be subject to the reporting requirements of the Transparency Act and this Guidance.

A small selection of FAQs from the FSRS website:

Q. Under compensation, if the organization is a state entity or university, who do they enter into the system as the top five executives?
A. The Transparency Act requires a prime awardee to provide, for their DUNS number and the DUNS number of their sub-awardee(s), the names and total compensation of the five most highly compensated officers of the entity if the entity in the preceding fiscal year received 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues in Federal awards; and $25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal awards; and the public does not have access to this information about the compensation of the senior executives of the entity through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. See FFATA § 2(b)(1).

Q. Do these regulations apply if the sub-recipient is a state, local, or tribal government?
A. Yes.

Q. I’m a sub-contractor/sub-awardee; do I need to file a FFATA report in FSRS?
A. Sub-contractors/Sub-awardees cannot file a FFATA sub-award report in FSRS. Only the prime awardee is required (and able) to report sub-award actions in the FSRS reporting module.

For more information refer to the SMART 3.0 Trainings, particularly Sections 3 and 10, and you can always direct further questions to your FPO.

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**Technical Assistance Kick-Off for Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grantees**

September 16, 2020 @ 3:00 pm EST

Thank You for Registering for Technical Assistance Kick-Off for Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grantees. Still need to register? It’s not too late, join [here](#).

The objectives for the webinar include:
- Provide an overview of planned Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grants programmatic TA activities and services
- Orient grantees on the approach to delivery of TA services
- Introduce the Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grants TA team (and roles) to grantees, including coaches and subject matter experts (SME)
- Present the Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grants Community on WorkforceGPS

Some important reminders:
- You can login to [https://www.workforcegps.org/user/myprofile/my-events/](https://www.workforcegps.org/user/myprofile/my-events/) no earlier than 30 minutes before the start of the event.
- The audio will be broadcast through your computer speakers.
- Closed Captioning is provided for all WorkforceGPS virtual events.
- Once you have joined the event, if you need additional support, please ask the event facilitator.
- Attendees are registered on a first come, first serve basis; there is no wait list. If you are unable to attend this event for any reason, please unregister from your MyEvents page.
- Virtual events are recorded and archived on WorkforceGPS approximately two business days after the event concludes; you may manage your events from your MyEvents Profile page.

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**FEATURED RESOURCE**

Retention of Tradeswomen in the time of Viruses:

Join this interactive webinar to learn about concrete steps
COVID-19 and Racism
Wednesday, September 16 from 4 – 5:30pm EST

Guidance: Apprenticeship Standards and Creative Commons

Should Apprenticeship Standards Be Licensed Under Creative Commons?

Your grant agreement contains three terms specific to work produced with the assistance of grant funds within term 12. Administrative Requirements. Please be sure to read the grant agreement as indicated in the grantee orientation, but also note that these terms potentially require additional action on the part of grantees when publishing materials. Grant term 12.g., has language which must be used with products developed with grant funds, and 12.d., Creative Commons Attributions License, states that intellectual property developed under awards must have a creative commons license.

The Office of Apprenticeship and DOL has established policy in place which designates Registered Apprenticeship Standards for any registered apprenticeship program (RAP), proprietary to the sponsor of that RAP, and therefore not public by definition.

To reconcile the requirements of both the grant agreement and Office of Apprenticeship policy, grantees will be required to advise all programs developed with grant funds that Appendix A - Work Process Schedule and Related Instruction Outline affiliated with any program developed with grant funds (rather than the Standards themselves) must be
1) licensed in accordance with the grant agreement term and be
2) submitted to OA as such with the Quarterly Narrative Report (QNR) following registration, and
3) made available to the public.

The YARG Community on WorkforceGPS

The YARG Community on WorkforceGPS is live!

The Community is a virtual resource repository and information exchange platform aimed at supporting lead organizations and their partners in the development of new, or the expansion of existing, RAPs for youth.

Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grant Newsletter