

Proclamation National Apprenticeship Week 2021 In Illinois

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Labor's National Apprenticeship Week is an opportunity to celebrate the positive impact apprenticeships have on Illinois youth, adults, businesses, and the Illinois economy as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeship Illinois is committed to creating career pathways for residents to obtain in-demand skills through apprenticeship's earn-while-you-learn model; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeship Illinois applauds the nearly 500 employers offering registered apprenticeships to over 16,000 apprentices in occupations in high-growth and emerging industries; and

WHEREAS, Illinois apprentices are employees from the start of their training, learn technical competencies in the classroom and apply them on the job with the help of experienced mentors, are appropriately compensated for achieving defined skills gains, and complete their apprenticeships having earned a portable, industry-recognized credential; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeship Illinois is broadening access and increasing equity in apprenticeships by expanding apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities for underrepresented populations and communities, including but not limited to African American and Hispanic/Latinx, out of school youth, returning residents, in-school youth, individuals with disabilities, women, and older workers; and

WHEREAS, The Apprenticeship Illinois Committee of the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board provides leadership on:

- Expanding apprenticeships geographically and to new industries;
- Increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in apprenticeships;
- Formalizing apprenticeship coordination across partnering state agencies; and
- Growing statewide capacity to provide apprenticeship opportunities to job seekers and businesses

THEREFORE, I, Michael Conley, Chair of the Apprenticeship Illinois Committee of the Illinois Workforce Innovation Board, do hereby proclaim November 15-19, 2021 as National Apprenticeship Week in Illinois.



*Michael Conley,
Apprenticeship Illinois
Committee Chair*



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