

Supportive Services for Registered Apprentices Grant

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

Updated Feb. 9, 2026

What is the goal of this grant program?

This grant seeks to provide supportive services to registered apprentices to aid in the retention of new and existing participants in registered apprenticeship programs in Minnesota.

This grant is fully funded through a \$4.7 million State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula Grant (Award # 25A60AP000057) that the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) received from the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration.

What is a registered apprenticeship program (RAP)?

Registered apprenticeship is a successful and innovative employee training model that can be designed to meet employers' needs to recruit, train and retain talent. From day one, an apprentice earns, learns and works for their employers as they receive structured on-the-job learning (OJL) and related classroom instruction (RI). RAPs help businesses develop highly skilled and motivated employees, reduce turnover rates, increase worker productivity and lower the cost of recruitment.

What are supportive services?

Supportive services are goods or services provided to registered apprentices to help them overcome barriers to participation in, retention in and completion of a RAP. Examples include but are not limited to transportation assistance, childcare assistance, tools and safety equipment. When provided to registered apprentices, supportive services help them successfully engage in employment and complete their training program.

Who can apply for the Supportive Services for Registered Apprentices Grant funding?

The grant program seeks proposals from existing RAPs in Minnesota in good standing with DLI, community-based organizations and other non-profit entities equipped to provide services to registered apprentices. Applicants must have capacity to track supportive services provided to each apprentice.

What is the period of performance?

Applications are open beginning Feb. 9, 2026, and will remain open until 4 p.m. on April 30, 2027, or until funds are depleted, whichever comes first. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served, basis. The period of performance is from the date the contract is fully executed, for a period of up to 15 months. All funds must be spent by June 30, 2027.

What's the process for getting grant funding?

Applications are accepted beginning Feb. 9, 2026, and will remain open until 4 p.m. on April 30, 2027, or until funds are depleted, whichever comes first. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served, basis. Applications will be reviewed by DLI staff to ensure applicants are registered apprenticeship programs in Minnesota in good standing with DLI and the requested costs are allowable grant activities. Applicant awards will be announced approximately two weeks after submission.

Prior to a contract, the grant awardee will need to register in the State of Minnesota's SWIFT system for accounting purposes. That can be done even before grant awards are made. [You can find information on the SWIFT website.](#) [Visit the SWIFT help desk](#) if you have additional questions.

Prior to any grant funding, a fully executed contract must be signed.

Can grant funds be used to pay apprentice wages?

No, funds may not be used to pay apprentice wages.

Open licensing requirements

Any new course planning and curriculum developed with grant funds needs to be broadly shared. See below for Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 definition:

“Intellectual property developed under this contract must be licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) license, which allows subsequent users to copy, distribute, transmit, and adapt the copyrighted work and requires such users to attribute the work.”

What is the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number? What is SWIFT

All organizations applying for federal funding must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). A UEI is a unique twelve-character ID number that is used to track how the federal grant is allocated. [Register for or verify a UEI number.](#) As a sub-awardee on this grant you only need to get a UEI and not register in SAM.gov (no entity registration required). The information required for getting a UEI number without registration is minimal. See [GSAFSD Tier 0 Knowledge Base - What's the difference between only getting a UEI and registering your entity?](#).

What is Apprenticeship Minnesota?

Apprenticeship Minnesota at DLI helps employers develop and design their own RAP that provides apprentices with specific skills, training and job-related instruction tailored to the company's needs.

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