

U.S. Department of Labor

1. Accessing Apprenticeships

Policy Priority: The Department of Labor believes that employers in every industry deserve the tools to develop a highly skilled workforce to help their business compete. For workers, apprenticeships offer opportunities to earn a salary while learning the technical skills necessary to succeed in high-demand careers.

Problem: Job seekers who are looking for apprenticeship opportunities within their communities or in specific areas are currently unable to identify Registered Apprenticeships (RA) training/job openings. Currently, there is an Apprenticeship Finder 1.0 which allows job seekers the opportunity to find apprenticeable occupations, but it does not specifically show RA programs

Use Cases:

- Educators like high school counselors looking to create RA opportunity lists as part of a career pathway mechanism
- Community colleges searching for programs that are currently not registered
- Potential employers seeking to post potential RA opportunities that would feed into the potential job pool

2. Connecting Americans to skills and jobs

Policy Priority: The Department of Labor believes that dynamic, rich data about the workforce can better connect Americans and their skills to jobs that need to be filled. Unlocking this data can make it easier for Americans who are chronically unemployed or underemployed to find and access new training and job opportunities.

Problem: Job placement professionals such as vocational caseworkers at one-stop shops and community resource centers do not have access to a real-time, geographically relevant information to connect their clients to the training and job opportunities that fit them best. They rely primarily on word-of-mouth and or physical walk-throughs of neighborhoods to find job openings to refer their clients. This method is neither efficient nor effective at placing individuals in positions that are best suited to their needs and skills sets.

Use Cases:

- Caseworkers needing real-time, geographically relevant information to connect their clients to training and job opportunities
- Underemployed or late-career job seekers looking to close their skill gap and improve their wage or skill level
- Large-scale employers or HR companies looking to understand trending jobs and skills to make better hiring decisions about the future