Youth Apprenticeships in North Carolina

Jess Englert, Office of Governor Cooper
Overview of Apprenticeships in NC

- ApprenticeshipNC run out of the North Carolina Community College System Office
- Apprenticeship 2000 developed in 1990s in Charlotte by Swiss and German manufacturers
- Currently 7,304 active apprentices in North Carolina
- Industries include Manufacturing, Logistics, IT, Healthcare, Energy, and Building Trades
Statewide
7,304 Active Apprentices
363 Active Programs
2,180 Active Youth Apprentices

Northwest Prosperity Zone
106 Active Apprentices
19 Active Programs

North Central Prosperity Zone
925 Active Apprentices
89 Active Programs

Northeast Prosperity Zone
211 Active Apprentices
9 Active Programs

Piedmont Triad Prosperity Zone
2,180 Active Youth Apprentices
2032 Active Apprentices
100 Active Programs

Sandhills Prosperity Zone
945 Active Apprentices
28 Active Programs

Southwest Prosperity Zone
377 Active Apprentices
20 Active Programs

Southeast Prosperity Zone
257 Active Apprentices
36 Active Programs

Western Prosperity Zone
2451 Active Apprentices
62 Active Programs
Youth Apprenticeships in NC

- ApprenticeshipNC serves as guarantor of quality Registered Apprenticeship programs in North Carolina
- Youth apprentices defined as individuals ages 16 through 24 who are eligible under WIOA
- 2,180 youth apprentices aged 16-24
  - Hosted by 503 employers
  - 366 currently enrolled in high school
    - Recruited through 20 consortia across state
    - Almost all in Advanced Manufacturing
- Statewide Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator hired in 2017
Current Challenges

- Racial disparity in youth apprenticeships
  - 65% of youth apprentices are white, 15% African-American, 10% Latino, 2% Asian, >1% American Indian, Other/Unknown
- Male youth apprentices greatly outnumber female youth apprentices
  - Only 17% of youth apprentices are female
- Very few high school apprentices outside of advanced manufacturing
Demand for Youth Apprentices

- North Carolina projected to add over 550,000 jobs by 2024
- Rate of employment growth expected to outpace increase in state’s overall population (12.3% vs. 10.4%)
- High-demand industries include healthcare, construction, IT, finance, hospitality and tourism, and agribusiness
- Governor Cooper recently endorsed statewide goal of two million North Carolinians between ages of 25 to 44 with post-secondary degree or certification by 2030
Where We’re Going

- Expand to nontraditional industries that are in high demand in North Carolina, such as financial tech, IT, and agribusiness
- PAYA Grant Working Group
  - ApprenticeshipNC
  - North Carolina Business Committee for Education
  - North Carolina Justice Center
  - North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Career Technical Association
  - Disability: IN
  - Charlotte Executive Leadership Council
  - North Carolina Department of Commerce
- Leverage business councils’ (ex. Charlotte Executive Leadership Council) interest in launching youth apprenticeships
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