

APPRENTICESHIPNC: Growing and Diversifying A Statewide System

Building on the grassroots growth of youth apprenticeship in North Carolina, ApprenticeshipNC is leading a statewide strategy to increase the number and diversity of youth apprentices. Led by the North Carolina Community College System, ApprenticeshipNC supports the development of apprenticeship opportunities to accelerate inclusive economic growth across the state.



Through PAYA, **ApprenticeshipNC** has convened a partnership of key state and local actors to advance a coordinated statewide vision for youth apprenticeship. Partners include:

- **The North Carolina Business Committee for Education**
- **The Department of Public Instruction**
- **Disability:IN and the North Carolina Justice Center**
- **Charlotte Executive Leadership Council**
- **The Eastern Triad Workforce Initiative**
- **North Eastern North Carolina Career Pathways**
- **Western Region Apprenticeship Expansion Collaborative**

Expanding youth apprenticeship through PAYA is a central strategy for North Carolina's goal of creating 10,000 apprenticeships. Building on statewide momentum, ApprenticeshipNC tripled the number of active youth apprentices to 2,500 in just two years, working with a range of business partners, including Bank of America, Caterpillar Inc., Charter Communications, Cisco Systems, CVS Health, IBM and Siemens.

ApprenticeshipNC will support and expand equitable access to existing youth apprenticeship opportunities in advanced manufacturing, while launching innovative pilot programs in financial technology in Charlotte, hospitality in the western mountain region, and agribusiness in the coastal plains.

ApprenticeshipNC is also putting in place a coordinated statewide vision and strategy to grow and diversify youth apprenticeship that will:

- **INCREASE POLICY ALIGNMENT** to drive uptake of new state tuition benefits and create new cross agency guidance and handbooks for regional partners;
- **IMPROVE DATA QUALITY** by launching a cross agency effort to improve data on youth apprenticeship system performance to inform expansion and equity; and,
- **LAUNCH A STATEWIDE REGIONAL NETWORK FOR SCALE** to link and support start-up capacity and growth of regional partnerships and intermediaries.



Apprenticeships can help young people get on the right track for success and help businesses groom potential employees. The Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship will help connect North Carolina students with hands-on training and professional development they need to thrive in the workforce.

ROY COOPER, Governor of North Carolina