



National Apprenticeship Week: Updated Website Promotes Wide Variety of Career Opportunities

WETHERSFIELD, November 13, 2017 – In recognition of National Apprenticeship Week, designated as November 13-17, the Connecticut Department of Labor is promoting its [Apprenticeship Training website](#) and the information it provides to those seeking well-paying jobs in a wide variety of careers.

“Apprenticeships offer excellent training opportunities combined with an educational component that can pay for itself since an apprentice earns a salary while learning on the job,” noted State Labor Commissioner Scott B. Jackson. “Today’s apprenticeships lead to careers in high-tech manufacturing facilities, hospitals and information technology firms, as well as skilled trades such as plumbing, electrical and masonry.”

Located at www.ctapprenticeship.com, the website features an easy-to-navigate page with links designed to simplify the application process for those interested in becoming an apprentice, and guidelines for employers wanting to sponsor an apprentice.

The site details incentive programs for employer sponsors, and the list of approved schools and required courses. To give a better sense of potential careers, current job openings for apprentices are posted, in addition to benefits for military veterans and apprenticeships with the building trades. There is also information about state and federal funding, including Connecticut’s Manufacturing Innovation Fund and the USDOL American Apprenticeship Initiative.

“For the past 80 years, apprenticeship has played an important role in educating and training our future workforce,” Jackson said. “By combining on-the-job training with classroom instruction, registered apprenticeship programs have been instrumental in developing skilled employees that can fill our jobs pipeline, especially in those occupations that have significant numbers of retirements.” Jackson noted that with more than 40 percent of all registered nurses over the age of 55, the state’s new healthcare apprenticeship programs will help ensure quality care for Connecticut’s residents.

Currently, more than 1,500 active employer-sponsors and labor-management training committees in Connecticut employ approximately 6,000 apprentices in registered programs.

The National Apprenticeship Act, also known as the Fitzgerald Act, was originally sponsored by Norwich, CT native and U.S. Representative William Fitzgerald. Representing Connecticut’s 2nd District, Fitzgerald served two terms in Congress – from 1937 to 1939, and again from 1941 to 1943. In his youth he was a foundry molder apprentice, worked his way up to foundry superintendent, and later served as a deputy commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Labor from 1931 to 1936.

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