



Department of
Higher Education



Governor's Office of
Workforce Transformation



Department
of Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ApprenticeOhio Teams Up with Community Colleges to Offer Tuition Assistance

COLUMBUS, OHIO – September 20, 2017 – A unique partnership between ApprenticeOhio and 10 community colleges across the state is making it easier for Ohio students to pursue careers in well-paying industries that need workers.

The Ohio College Apprenticeship Consortium will provide tuition reimbursement to participating students for completing pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship programs in occupations identified by local businesses as needing workers. The programs combine classroom and on-the-job training to help apprentices learn the skills employers need, in fields as diverse as advanced manufacturing, computer programming, construction, health care and business services.

“Students are full-time employees from day one of their apprenticeships, and they graduate college debt-free,” said Cynthia Dungey, director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, which manages ApprenticeOhio. “Employers gain ready access to a stream of qualified employees, and those employees earn good wages: as much as \$60,000 a year.”

“ApprenticeOhio affords students the unique opportunity to earn while they learn without accruing college debt,” said Ryan Burgess, director of the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation. “The benefit to businesses is clear – they can develop a skilled and productive workforce that meets the needs of the 21st century workplace.”

The Ohio College Apprenticeship Consortium was made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The following educational institutions are participating:

Columbus State Community College
Cuyahoga Community College
Edison State Community College
Lorain County Community College
Marion Technical College

North Central State College
Rhodes State College
Sinclair Community College
Stark State College
Washington State Community College

“I am pleased with the level of participation from our community colleges in this unique endeavor with ApprenticeOhio,” said Chancellor John Carey. “Partnering with businesses in different regions of the state is the best way to ensure that students are being placed in in-demand jobs, and the businesses are getting students who are prepared for a successful career.”



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“It’s vital that we support student learning through work-based and apprenticeship experiences. These kinds of engaged learning experiences are powerful and support student success in further education or in the workplace – oftentimes leading to well-paying jobs,” said Paolo DeMaria, state superintendent of public instruction. “Enormous opportunity exists for Ohio’s businesses to partner with educators in setting students up for lifelong success while developing our state’s future workforce.”

ApprenticeOhio ranks second in the nation and first in the region in the number of apprentices. The programs allow students to earn while they learn, and they give businesses an inexpensive way to build a highly skilled, motivated workforce. The programs emphasize learning by doing, and they’re thriving. More than 19,000 registered apprentices are working in Ohio, in more than 200 occupations. For more information, visit **Apprentice.Ohio.gov**.