



# Youth Resource Connections

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## Headlines

**ETA Announces New Release of the Career Pathways Toolkit: An Enhanced Guide and Workbook for System Development.** The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (DOLETA) is excited to release the **Career Pathways Toolkit: An Enhanced Guide and Workbook for System Development.** The new Toolkit will be especially helpful for State offices and partners required to develop a Unified Plan as well as staff members supporting State Workforce Development Boards. DOLETA revised the Career Pathways Toolkit to align with the new vision, definition, and requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). It also reflects major advancements and emerging promising practices in the field over the past five years. The enhanced Toolkit features an Introduction, Resources, and the Six Key Elements of Career Pathways. Each element now includes **embedded - and writeable - worksheets to help State and local teams with implementation.** Users can type directly into the worksheet fields and save and print as they go

along. To view the publication, visit: [https://career-pathways.workforceceqs.org/announcements/2016/10/20/09/37/Career\\_Pathways\\_Toolkit\\_An\\_Enhanced\\_Guide\\_and\\_Workbook](https://career-pathways.workforceceqs.org/announcements/2016/10/20/09/37/Career_Pathways_Toolkit_An_Enhanced_Guide_and_Workbook).

**SNAP E&T Learning Academy Call for Applications.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's, Food and Nutrition Services invite applications from individuals for its Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training (E&T) Academy. The Academy is designed to increase the number of individuals and organizations that can provide support to States to successfully utilize SNAP E&T.

**HUD Releases 3-Year Study of Strategies to End Family Homelessness.** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the results of an exhaustive study, [Family Options Study: Three-year Impacts of Housing and Services Interventions for](#)

[Homeless Families](#), to identify the most efficient and cost-effective ways to house and serve these families. After tracking more than 2,200 families over a three-year period, HUD found that a long-term subsidy, typically a Housing Choice Voucher, led to far better outcomes for reducing family homelessness and improving family well-being.

**SAMHSA Youth Engagement Guidance.** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration released their Youth Engagement Guidance: Strategies, Tools, and Tips for Supportive and Meaningful Youth Engagement in Federal Government-Sponsored Meetings and Events. The guidance was developed to provide federal staff and contractors with strategies, tools, and tips for appropriately engaging youth in government sponsored events and meetings.

## Headlines Continued

### [The Census Bureau Releases Updated Tables.](#)

The U.S. Census Bureau released [updated tables](#) that provide information by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, family income, type of college, employment status, nativity, foreign-born parent-age, attendance status (full or part time), type of school (public or private) and vocational course enrollment. They also delve into topics such as nursery school and kindergarten enrollment, the likelihood of enrollment in a grade appropriate for their age, and the percentage of young adults enrolled in college. Historical tables are also provided [here](#).

**Preventing Unplanned Pregnancy among Teens and Young Adults.** Teen/young adult pregnancy is a leading reason that young women leave high school. According to YouthBuild USA, twenty-eight percent of YouthBuild students are parents. In the United States, nearly four out of 10 teenage women get pregnant at least once before they turn 20. See the link below for one of several resources identified by The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy:

### [The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy](#)

believes that "by preventing teen and unplanned pregnancy, [they] can significantly improve other serious social problems including poverty (especially child poverty), child abuse and neglect, father-absence, low birth weight, school failure, and poor preparation for the workforce." The website contains a wealth of information and data on teen and unplanned pregnancy, sex education and birth control, as well as a resource library of over 350 resources including publications, research reports, fact sheets, videos and other materials.

### [Siemens Foundation Expands Stem Middle-Skill Initiative — Adds Two New Partners to Build The Next Generation Workforce.](#)

The Siemens Foundation announced the expansion of its STEM Middle-Skill Initiative with the addition of **two new partners**. The partners will continue to advance the development of essential skills needed for young adults in thriving middle-skill jobs requiring science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

### [Girl Scouts of the USA and Netflix Come Together to Empower Girls to Explore STEM Subjects.](#)

Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) and [Netflix](#) are joining forces to empower young girls to envision their futures in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. Centered around Project Mc2, a Netflix original series from MGA Entertainment Inc., the collaboration takes STEM beyond the small screen with hands-on experiences for Girl Scout troops at Netflix headquarters and the debut of a [STEM Superstars Guide](#) (PDF), an online resource that encourages Girl Scouts across the country to discover just how exciting, fun and rewarding STEM can be.

## Hot WIOA Updates

**WIOA Regulations Released.** The U.S. Departments of Labor and Education have made publicly available five rules implementing WIOA. WIOA is landmark legislation that is designed to strengthen and improve our nation's public workforce system and help get Americans, including youth and those with significant barriers to employment, into high-quality jobs and careers and help employers hire and retain skilled workers. See complementary resources noted below:

- [Press Release](#)
- [Training and Employment Guidance Letter 26-15](#)
- Items at [www.doleta.gov/WIOA/Final\\_Rules\\_Resources.cfm](http://www.doleta.gov/WIOA/Final_Rules_Resources.cfm):
  - ◇ [Fact Sheets](#)
  - ◇ [FAQs](#)
  - ◇ [Performance Accountability Resources](#)

For information about DOL performance and reporting, visit:  
[https://www.doleta.gov/performance/reporting/eta\\_default.cfm](https://www.doleta.gov/performance/reporting/eta_default.cfm).

### Enough is Known for Action Series

**Regs 101 Training: Youth Provision Title I Formula, YouthBuild and Reentry Employment Opportunities.** On July 27<sup>th</sup>, ETA hosted a webinar which highlighted changes in WIOA and described how the formula, YouthBuild and Reentry Employment Opportunities programs have been impacted by the regulations. To view an archive of the webinar, visit:  
[https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2016/07/18/15/07/Regs\\_101\\_Training-Youth\\_Provision\\_Title\\_I\\_Formula\\_YouthBuild\\_and\\_Reentry\\_Employment\\_Opportunities](https://www.workforcegps.org/events/2016/07/18/15/07/Regs_101_Training-Youth_Provision_Title_I_Formula_YouthBuild_and_Reentry_Employment_Opportunities).

**Peer Learning Group Call on Youth Services Webinar!** On June 29<sup>th</sup> ETA's contractor Maher & Maher hosted a session on effective Youth Committees, partnerships and how they assist with implementation of WIOA In-School and Out-of-School youth programs. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: [https://ion.workforcegps.org/events/2016/06/20/09/52/Youth\\_Services\\_PLG](https://ion.workforcegps.org/events/2016/06/20/09/52/Youth_Services_PLG).

### WIOA Youth Training and Employment Guidance Letters

**TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT GUIDANCE LETTER No. 23-14:** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program Transition. This resource provides guidance and planning information to states, local workforce areas, and other recipients of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title I youth formula funds on the activities associated with the implementation of WIOA.

**TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT GUIDANCE LETTER No. 08-15:** Second Title 1 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program Transition Guidance. This resource provides guidance and planning information to states, local workforce areas, and other recipients on how to begin important planning and organizational work necessary to comply with WIOA statutory requirements.

**Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) updates available at:**

<https://www.doleta.gov/wioa/>

## Funding Announcements and Opportunities

**NSF Invites Applications to Improve Undergraduate STEM Education.** The National Science Foundation's Directorate for Education and Human Resources, Division of Undergraduate Education is accepting applications for its Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Education and Human Resources (IUSE: EHR) program. The program is designed to address immediate challenges and opportunities that are facing undergraduate STEM education, as well as those that anticipate new structures (e.g. organizational changes, new methods for certification or credentialing, course re-conception, cyberlearning, etc.) and new functions of the undergraduate learning and teaching enterprise. **Deadline: November 3.**

### **Department of Interior Announces Funding Opportunity for Technical Assistance Programs.**

The Department of Interior is accepting applications from U.S. Territories for its OIT Technical Assistance Program. The Technical Assistance Program (TAP) provides grant funding for short-term projects intended to meet the immediate needs of the insular areas. The Department's priorities are as follows: Climate change, accountability, financial management, **economic development, training, education**, energy, management control initiatives, safety, emergency, historical & cultural preservation, capacity building, health initiatives, and **outdoor youth initiatives.** **Deadline: March 1, 2017.**

See [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) (TAP-2017 OIA Technical Assistance Program)

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## Grant Awards

**\$2 Million Grant Awarded to University of Minnesota to Improve Academic Assessments of Children with Disabilities.** The U.S. Department of Education announced a \$2 million grant to the University of Minnesota's **National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO)** to support states and local school districts in increasing participation and improving results for children with disabilities in state and districtwide academic assessments. The funds will also be used to help states meet data collection and reporting requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

### **Five States Receive \$39 Million in Grants to Prepare Students with Disabilities for College, Employment.**

The U.S. Department of Education announced the award of \$39 million in grants to five states to help students with disabilities prepare for postsecondary education and competitive integrated employment. The states include: California, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts and Vermont.

# Opportunities for Youth, Young Adults, and Practitioners

[National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Accepting Applications for Classroom Research Grants for Teachers of Grades 7-12.](#)

**Deadline: November 4.**

[National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Accepting Applications for Music Projects to Teach Mathematics Grants.](#)

**Deadline: November 4.**

[National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Accepting Applications for Projects Connecting Mathematics to Other 9-12 Grade Subject Areas.](#)

**Deadline: November 4.**

[Garrett Lee Smith \(GLS\) Campus Suicide Prevention Grant.](#)

**Deadline: December 7.**

[2017 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.](#)

**Deadline: November 8.**

[Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Accepting Applications for Good Neighbor Program](#)

**Deadline: November 15.**

[Air Force Association Accepting Applications for Aerospace Activities in K-12 Classrooms](#)

**Deadline: November 18.**

[Aspen Institute Social Innovation Program Invites Applications for Hearst Fellowship for Minority Students.](#)

**Deadline: November 22.**

[High School Seniors in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming Invited to Apply for Daniels Scholarship Program.](#)

**Deadline: November 30.**

[Broward Education Foundation Accepting Applications for Teacher Innovation Grants](#)

**Deadline: November 30.**

[Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Invites Applications for Undergraduate Scholarships.](#)

**Deadline: November 30.**

[National Youth Leadership Council Service-Learning Awards](#)

**Deadline: December 5.**

[Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries Accepting School Library Grant Applications](#)

**Deadline: December 12.**

[Aiden's Red Envelope Foundation Supports Families of Children with Special Needs](#)

**Deadline: Rolling.**

## Resources

On November 15, the American Youth Policy Forum will host a webinar entitled: [Accountability for Alternative Education: Lessons Learned from States and Districts](#). During the webinar presenters will explore the challenges and opportunities of accountability for alternative education, along with promising practices from states and districts who have developed accountability measures and systems that are inclusive of *all* students in all types of educational settings. To register for the webinar, visit: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/5685973028636393475>.

On November 2, America Saves for Young Workers (ASYW) will host a Webcast entitled: **Youth Employment Programs as Pathways to Savings**. Youth can learn how to save when provided appropriate products, services, and mechanisms. Join ASYW for panel discussions on the critical role that youth employment can play in young people's financial success. To register, visit for the webcast, visit: <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/ConsumerFederationofAmerica/asyw-1.html>.

### Archived Webinar

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, the National Skills Coalition hosted a webinar entitled: **Promising Practices in Work-Based Learning for Youth**. During the webinar, National Skills Coalition, National Youth Employment Coalition and youth work-based learning providers discussed promising practices in providing work-based learning programming for out-of-school and in-school youth. To view an archive of the webinar, visit: <http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/resources/webinars/promising-practices-in-work-based-learning-for-youth>.

[Sprint to Offer Free Devices and Data to 1M Low-Income Students](#). The nation's fourth-largest mobile network operator said it will work with the Sprint Foundation and nonprofit agencies including Everyone On and Barack Obama's My Brother's Keeper Alliance to recruit schools, libraries, public-housing authorities and other community organizations to help distribute and activate devices and services for up to four years for kids in high school. Students may receive a free smartphone, tablet, laptop or hotspot device and 3 GB of LTE data per month.

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## Publications

**New Paper Highlights Promising Practices In Work-Based Learning For Youth**. A [new paper](#) by National Skills Coalition and [National Youth Employment Coalition](#) finds that well-designed work-based learning opportunities can provide youth with occupational and work readiness training while providing income support for disconnected and at-risk youth. The paper examines four different work-based learning strategies, illustrates key elements of success, identifies challenges, and makes policy recommendations to address those challenges.

## Publications Cont'd

**[Strengthening Policies for Foster Youth Postsecondary Attainment](#)**. This new policy report from Education Commission of the States, provides an overview of the challenges foster youth confront when pursuing a post-secondary credential, focuses on the treatment of these youth by state financial aid programs, and offers potential remedies that state policy leaders may pursue to increase successful outcomes for this population.

**[nTIDE Jobs Report: Jobs Numbers Rise Again In 6-Month Trend for Americans with Disabilities](#)**. The Kessler Foundation & University of New Hampshire released the nTIDE Report for September - Monthly Update. For the sixth consecutive month economic indicators rose for Americans with disabilities, according to the National Trends in Disability Employment.

**[Scholarships and Financial Aid for Women](#)**. This guide released by Affordable Colleges.com, is a free resource that offers scholarships and financial aid information for all women pursuing higher education and includes specific content for students in traditionally underrepresented fields like STEM and finance as well as often underserved groups like single mothers and veterans.

**[Building bridges: How to share research about children and youth with policymakers](#)**. This publication brief developed by Child Trends, explores the conditions under which policymakers are most likely to use research, and how one can more effectively bring research to their attention.

**[Trends in High School Dropout and Completion Rates](#)**. This report released by The National Center for Education Statistics, draws on an array of nationally representative surveys and administrative datasets to present statistics on high school dropout and completion rates. The report includes estimates of the percentage of students who drop out in a given 12-month period (event dropout rates), the percentage of young people in a specified age range who are high school dropouts (status dropout rates), and the percentage of young people in a specified age range who hold high school credentials (status completion rates). In addition, the report includes data on the percentage of students who graduate within four years of starting ninth grade (adjusted cohort graduation rates), an estimated on-time graduation rate used to examine long-term trends (averaged freshman graduation rate), and data on GED test takers. This edition's spotlight indicator explores data on high school students who drop out but later reenter high school (stopouts) and the reasons that students cite for dropping out of school. This report updates a series of NCES reports on high school dropout and completion rates that began in 1988.

**[Remedial Education: The Cost of Catching Up](#)**. This report from the Center for American Progress touches on national rates of progress through remedial education for major racial or ethnic and socioeconomic student groups before focusing on how much money students spend on these courses that do not count toward a degree. While there are certainly reforms to the design of remedial education in higher education institutions that could improve student retention and completion, the recommendations that conclude this report focus on other ways for the K-12 and higher education systems to eliminate the need for remedial education for recent high school graduates.



## Extra, Extra, Read All About It!

Want to get to know a YO Success Story: Return on Baltimore City's Investment? Check out this month's featured story.

Send your story to [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov)! :)



Brian earned his diploma from Digital Harbor High School in 2014, and then he hadn't really thought about what was next. Nobody had told him to be prepared with a plan. He took a part-time seasonal job with UPS in late 2014 and when that was over, he once again wasn't sure which way to go. Brian was lucky to run into the job developer at the Youth Opportunity (YO) Baltimore Center located in West Baltimore, who said – come by, I'll get you a job. So Brian set about utilizing the services at the YO Baltimore Center,

including building a resume, practicing interview skills and filling out job applications. "I also went online and completed various surveys that helped me get a better idea of my personal strengths and my work abilities," Brian said. "I have great hand-eye coordination. It's easy for me to take apart a car and put it back together efficiently, I'm very good with tools." In June 2015, Brian started what was supposed to be a 3-month tryout employment with Anderson Auto Body. In less than 2 months, they offered him a full-time position as an A Level Technician. When asked what helps him stay motivated, Brian responded, "I have to make sure my priorities are straight. I have to apply self-discipline like, go to bed at this time, get up at this time. It helps me establish skills to be independent." What's next for Brian? His Dad helped him set up a plan to put aside \$200 each month to save for a car and in the next five-to-10 years he wants to move up to be a C Level Technician. In Brian's words, "I want to be better than I was yesterday; make sure I don't make the same mistake twice; and I want to keep building on the basic skills and apply to more advanced objectives."

## Upcoming Events

**October 30–November 3.** Denver, CO. National Partnership for Juvenile Services' [22nd National Symposium on Juvenile Services](#).

**October 31–November 2.** Chicago, IL. National Association of Workforce Boards: [2016 Youth Development Symposium](#).

**November 17.** The National Resource Mentoring Center Announces **National Mentoring Month**.

**HAVE IDEAS!** The Employment and Training Administration is interested in hearing about new and innovative approaches which bring employers, educators and workforce system professionals together to serve our communities' youth. If you would like share projects or programs in your area, please e-mail your information to the Division of Youth Services at [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov) or twitter at [#oneyouthteam](https://twitter.com/oneyouthteam)



**Youth Resource Connections (YRC).** The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non-endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the YRC.

**We welcome your input.** Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments, contact the: Division of Youth Services at (202) 693-3030 or e-mail [youth.services@dol.gov](mailto:youth.services@dol.gov).

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