



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

News Release

Timothy Jeffries, Director

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MEDIA CONTACT

Office of Communications

602-542-4296

PIO@azdes.gov

DES Recognizes Arizona Apprenticeship Week

November 14 - November 20, 2016

PHOENIX – The Department of Economic Security (DES) Division of Employment and Rehabilitation Services (DERS) recognizes [Arizona Apprenticeship Week](#) November 14 through November 20, 2016.

The DES Apprenticeship Office places registered apprentices with skilled mentors who oversee and train them in new job skills. The program offers job seekers an earn-as-you learn alternative to post-secondary education.

“We are honored to be able to offer this program to Arizona workers who want to enhance their skill set or learn a new trade,” said Director Tim Jeffries. “The skills these workers learn on the job will serve them—and Arizona businesses and trades—for many years to come.”

These working opportunities combine on-the-job-training with classroom instruction to teach novice workers a skill or trade. Apprentices obtain professional certifications while earning a steady income. Currently, there are more than 2,900 apprentices in Arizona. The Arizona Apprenticeship Program is quickly growing with plans to exceed 5,000 apprenticeship opportunities in 2017.

The benefits to employers are many: highly skilled employees, reduced turnover rates, and higher productivity to name a few. Nationally recognized and portable credentials, higher wages as skills increase, and career advancement are some of the advantages for these workers.

For more information about the Arizona Apprenticeship Program, contact Willie Higgins, Arizona Apprenticeship Program Lead Coordinator at (602) 542-5641 or WHiggins@AZDES.Gov, or Adam Hartle, Apprenticeship Training Representative at (602) 364-0976 or AdamHartle@azdes.gov.

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