**What is apprenticeship?** Apprenticeship is an industry-led, nationally recognized training program for existing or newly hired employees. All registered apprenticeship training programs provide   
on-the-job learning and formal classroom training. As full-time employees, registered apprentices earn incremental wage increases during their program.

**Which occupations are apprenticeable?** Occupations that requires at least one year of   
hands-on-learning combined with a minimum of 144 hours of formal classroom learning.

**What is an apprenticeship sponsor?** Itmay be a single employer, a group of employers in a specific sector, a trade association or a labor union interested in advancing their workforce.

**What are the benefits of becoming a sponsor of apprenticeship? Apprenticeship…**

* …assists employers in investing in the trained workforce they need to be competitive.
* …is a proven strategy to reduce employee turnover and increase productivity,

quality, safety and versatility.

* …engages employees in self-directed, formal learning to advance their skills.
* …onetime reimbursement of up to $500.00.
* …assists in offsetting the cost of sponsor on-site classroom training.
* …subsidizes the cost of apprentice supervisor training – funding permitted.

**Who is a pre-apprentice?**

* Anyone at least 16 years old engaged in an educational/training program that includes hands-on-learning and classroom instruction partially fulfills a sponsors’ apprenticeship program requirements.
* A student or part-time or full-time employee.
* Pre-apprentices can be paid or unpaid.
* Pre-apprentices are engaged in education/training programs that provide a pathway to and credit toward a registered apprenticeship program.

**How does an interested business or group become a sponsor of apprenticeship?**

Contact Eileen Miazga, Apprenticeship Program Specialist, Eileen.Miazga@Maine.Gov or   
call 207-623-7966. TTY users call Maine Relay 711.

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