







#### **National Urban League Consortium Fact Sheet**

**Increasing Opportunity through Registered Apprenticeships: Opportunities and Benefits for Individuals and Employers** 

**JOBS** 

## WHY CULTIVATE REGIONAL APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR **INDUSTRY?**



#### WHAT IS REGISTERED **APPRENTICESHIP?**

**Registered Apprenticeships** offer training to workers who earn an income while they learn new job skills under the direction of a senior worker in the public and private sectors.

It is a time-tested employment model established by the Fitzgerald Act, also known as the National Apprenticeship Act, in 1937. The Act created a national apprenticeship system in the United States. It also gave the U.S. Secretary of Labor the authority over apprenticeships.

Visit the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) website for more information:

www.doleta.gov/OA

The telecommunications sector is at the epicenter of growth and innovation, making it a massive employer in need of a workforce that can easily adapt to its demands and learn new skills. Other industries have already embraced Apprenticeship and have the opportunity to grow and diversify their programs.

The NUL Consortium is bridging the employment gap by exposing underrepresented populations to vocations that support and strengthen America's most important industries. For these populations, WIAAI creates pathways to training and opportunities for the jobs of the future.

The NUL Consortium also offers assistance to companies in to create effective Affirmative Action Plans with the goal of diversifying their workforce. In addition, NUL can provide sample Affirmative Action Plans and other materials to help companies understand how best to meet their EEO diversity and recruitment goals.

Learn more about new EEO rules and how companies can create inclusive environments:

https://doleta.gov/OA/eeo/pdf/FAQs.pdf



### **WIAAI CREATES REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS**

In 2016, the National Urban League (NUL), Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC), and Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA) launched the Wireless **Infrastructure Apprenticeship** Access Initiative (WIAAI) through its contract with the Department of Labor's ApprenticeshipUSA Investments initiative to connect unemployed and underemployed minorities with Registered Apprenticeships in telecommunications infrastructure.

WIAAI is partnering with seven **NUL Regional Affiliates to cultivate** apprenticeship opportunities in Chicago, Illinois; Rochester, New York; the Central Carolinas; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Houston, Texas; Hampton Roads, Virginia; and Seattle, Washington.

# **Individuals**

- Earn a living wage while learning new skills
- Get an education without student loan debt
- Guaranteed a job at the end of the program
- People of color, women, people with disabilities, and underemployed workers are on the path to quality, middle-class careers

## **Registered Apprenticeships** Benefit Everyone

**Through Jobs Such As:** 

**Telecommunications Tower Technician** Wireless Technician

**Telecom Tower & Antenna Line Lead** Telecom Tower & Antenna Line Foreman **Telecom Tower Construction Lead Telecom Tower Construction Foreman** 

# **Employers**

- Provides a ready-made recruitment model
- Creates a reliable pipeline of skilled talent
- Increases productivity
- **Generates profit**
- Strengthens the capacity to compete in the global economy









# WHO ARE THE NUL PARTNERS, AND WHAT ROLE DO THEY PLAY?

### MULTICULTURAL MEDIA, **TELECOM AND INTERNET COUNCIL (MMTC)**

MMTC is a nonprofit organization with a 30-year track record of increasing diversity in media and telecommunications access, ownership, and employment.

MMTC develops and implements the curriculum, technical assistance, and training and marketing material for DOL-approved occupations under the WIAAI Consortium, and conducts program evaluation.

http://mmtconline.org

#### **NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE (NUL)**

NUL is a historic civil rights organization dedicated to economic empowerment in order to elevate the standard of living in historically underserved communities.

NUL serves as the WIAAI lead partner and will cultivate apprenticeship opportunities in the areas of seven of its Regional Affiliates.

www.nul.org



## WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE ASSOCIATION (WIA)

WIA is the principal trade association representing over 230 companies that build, own, upgrade, and maintain the U.S. wireless communications network.

WIA's role in the Consortium is to provide access to Registered Apprenticeships through identified and committed employers.

http://wia.org



Creating a stable and diverse workforce • Strengthening local, state, and regional economies.

