



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

APPRENTICESHIP AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION WEEK IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, as Governor, I am committed to making Florida number one in workforce education by 2030 to ensure Florida's industry-driven workforce, education, and training programs meet the needs of our globally competitive economy; and

WHEREAS, registered apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs are a time-tested workforce training model, and apprentices and preapprentices receive unparalleled on-the-job training, insightful mentorship and the attainment of high-value nationally recognized credentials necessary for a family sustaining career; and

WHEREAS, nearly 94 percent of apprentices who complete an apprenticeship program retain employment with their registered apprenticeship sponsor; and

WHEREAS, business and industry leaders sponsoring a Registered Apprenticeship and Preapprenticeship Program cultivate their workforce with customizable training, develop direct talent-to-employment pipelines and improve productivity; and

WHEREAS, Governor DeSantis has invested in expanding registered apprenticeships and preapprenticeship programs with over \$30 million dedicated to the Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant and over \$3 million reserved for the Apprenticeship State Expansion Grant; and

WHEREAS, Florida's Registered Apprenticeship and Preapprenticeship Programs continue to grow with 300 registered programs, over 15,000 registered apprentices and preapprentices and over 3,300 participating employers; and

WHEREAS, Florida's workforce development and education partners, including the Department of Education, the Department of Economic Opportunity and CareerSource Florida are focused on creating new apprenticeship opportunities in growing industries including manufacturing, construction, healthcare, information technology, hospitality and trade and logistics; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Education's apprenticeship regions are supported by Apprenticeship Training Representatives and outreach specialists who collaborate with the Department of Economic Opportunity and CareerSource Florida's 24 local workforce development boards, building an integrated apprenticeship network to support program expansion; and

WHEREAS, the CareerSource Florida Board of Directors has allocated \$1.25 million since 2020 to support the expansion of registered apprenticeships, including \$750,000 to establish Apprentice Navigator positions at local workforce development boards statewide to work directly with Apprenticeship Training Representatives and employers to create apprenticeship opportunities in the counties they serve; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeship Navigators receive ongoing training from CareerSource Florida and the Department of Education's Office of Apprenticeship on the benefits to businesses, both large and small and in all industries, of using a registered apprenticeship model to develop, train and retain their workforce; and

WHEREAS, continued growth of registered apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs ensures our students are prepared for the jobs of the future high-wage employment options based in Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing November 15-21, 2021, as *Apprenticeship Awareness and Appreciation Week in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 15th day of November, in the year two thousand twenty-one.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Governor