

**FY23 BroadbandUSA Federal Funding Site Update**

**Department: Department of Labor**

1	<b>Federal Agency/Bureau</b>	Department of Labor / Employment and Training Administration
2	<b>Program Name</b>	Investments in Apprenticeship to Support the Telecommunications Workforce
3	<b>Authorizing Legislation</b>	Not Applicable
4	<b>Program Overview</b>	<p>The Telecommunications Industry Registered Apprenticeship Program (“TIRAP”) is a joint venture of telecommunications companies, industry associations and the U.S. Department of Labor that develops credentialed apprenticeship programs available to qualified employers for career development of the telecommunications workforce. The TIRAP’s mission is to partner with stakeholders to promote safety, enhance quality, and enable education and advancement opportunities in the telecommunications workforce that will meet network infrastructure build out needs.</p> <p>In February 2020, the Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA), the National Sponsor of TIRAP, was awarded a \$5,997,096 grant under the Department of Labor’s “Apprenticeship: Closing the Skills Gap” program. IN partnership with the Power &amp; Communication Contractors Association (PCCA), the grant will be used to train a 5G workforce. Five institutions of higher education have already committed as technical partner schools.</p> <p>The nearly \$6 million grant is supplemented by over \$9 million in matching support from industry, including cash and in-kind contributions from WIA, PCCA, Ditch Witch, FS3, and participating employers, for a total commitment to apprenticeship of \$15 million in a public-private partnership. The grant will provide the necessary funding to design curricula and deliver training to develop qualified applicants for placement in middle- to high-skilled jobs nationwide that will accelerate 5G deployment for America’s 5G Apprenticeship Initiative.</p> <p>America’s 5G Apprenticeship Initiative is engaging a consortium of public and private partners with 33 small and mid-sized employers committing to create over 5,500 new apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships in this rapidly evolving sector. These industry-driven, competency-based apprenticeships will target veterans; transitioning service members; military spouses; women; people of color; unemployed, underemployed, and incumbent workers; and other underrepresented populations.</p> <p>In September 2020, ETA awarded a major contract to the Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA) perform as the 5G Industry Intermediary to develop the wireless workforce. The objective of the funding is to expand the industry’s multi-employer apprenticeship model to meet employers’ occupational and skills development needs. The contract will enable WIA to assist employers in developing over 600 apprentices in the next year with multi-year options to renew thereafter. It also provides \$400,000 per year in incentive funds for employers that adopt registered apprenticeship and serve under-represented populations.</p>

5	CFDA	Not Applicable
6	Program Website	<p><a href="http://www.apprenticeship.gov">http://www.apprenticeship.gov</a>(Department of Labor's website)</p> <p><a href="https://wia.org/">https://wia.org/</a></p> <p>The Wireless Infrastructure Association represents the companies that make up the wireless infrastructure ecosystem in the United States. Its members are the businesses that develop, build, own and operate that nation's wireless infrastructure. WIA member companies include wireless carriers, infrastructure providers, and professional services firms that collectively own and operate more than 135,000 telecommunications facilities around the globe.</p> <p><a href="https://www.tirap.org/">https://www.tirap.org/</a></p> <p>Built by and for telecommunications employers, the Telecommunications Industry Registered Apprenticeship Program (TIRAP) is a competency-based apprenticeship aimed at growing the productivity of the workforce as directly as possible. TIRAP defines career paths in a growing number of critical occupations, including tower technicians, wireless technicians, and utilities workers, along with leads and foremen. By establishing on-the-job training as well as classroom learning, these apprenticeships help you onboard and upskill your workers. This leads to better efficiency and safety —plus higher employee engagement and retention.</p>
7	Type of funding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discretionary <input type="checkbox"/> Subsidy <input type="checkbox"/> Formula <input type="checkbox"/> Loan or loan guarantee <input type="checkbox"/> Other (i.e. loan-grant combo; if there is a set-aside amount for certain recipients please indicate the amount):
8	Link to application site, NOFO, FOA, or Grants.gov (if different from program website above)	<p>All future Employment and Training Administration grant opportunities – including those in support of Information Technology and Telecommunications – can be found at <a href="https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/grants">https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/grants</a></p>
9	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) or Federal Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Modification <input type="checkbox"/> Reissue/Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Other (i.e. one-time funding):

10	<b>Important Dates (if applicable)</b>	Not Applicable
12	<b>FY2023 Appropriations Amount</b>	Total Amount: Not Applicable Amount Available Towards Broadband (if specified):
13	<b>Matching Requirement</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, what is the matching requirement: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other (i.e. if match is beneficial to an application but not required):
14	<b>Complementary Federal Funding Option</b>	Not Applicable
15	<b>Broadband-related Program Purpose/Eligible Expenditures (check all that apply)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning (e.g., feasibility, data collection, mapping) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Broadband Infrastructure Deployment (e.g., construction, equipment, materials) <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Inclusion (e.g. Broadband Adoption, Devices, Public Access, Digital Skills Training, Tech Support) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (e.g. Research and/or Evaluation, Telehealth, etc):
16	<b>Speed/Technical Requirement for Broadband Infrastructure</b>	Not Applicable
17	<b>Eligible Recipients (check all that apply)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> State Government <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> Territorial Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal/Native American Government, Alaska Native Controlled Organizations, and Native Hawaiian Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Facilities <input type="checkbox"/> For-Profit Organizations (including Internet Service Providers) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Utilities/Co-ops <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals/Households <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:
18	<b>Criteria for Eligible Recipients</b>	Not Applicable.
19	<b>Grant Beneficiaries (if different from eligible recipients)</b>	Not Applicable

20	<b>Programmatic Resources</b>	Not Applicable
21	<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	Not Applicable
22	<b>Publicly-available programmatic data</b>	Not Applicable
23	<b>Contact information</b>	Not Applicable
24	<b>Additional Information</b>	Not Applicable
25	<b>Updated</b>	March 2023