

Career Development Month Talking Points for Youth Apprenticeship

- ◆ Governor Walker proclaimed November as Career Development Month to heighten the visibility of career development efforts in Wisconsin, particularly among middle-school and high-school students, to ensure a robust talent pipeline for generations to come.
- ◆ November presents an opportunity to highlight long-standing careers in Wisconsin's workforce and resources that assist student, teachers, parents, counselors and others learn more about prospects for in-demand occupations.
- ◆ The Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship program is a proven school-to-work program, which coordinates high school student learning and training in the classroom and at a worksite using business developed, state-standardized worksite skills.
- ◆ Governor Walker added \$500,000 to each year of the 2013-15 Youth Apprenticeship appropriation in January 2014. Youth Apprenticeship enrollment has reached over 2,500 for both years.
- ◆ The YA program starts career development in high school, providing students with the skills needed for the jobs available in the state's growing economy.
- ◆ Youth Apprentices go through a competitive interview process and, as employees, receive compensation for their work while being exposed to multiple aspects of the industry. YA students are subject to the same work rules, safety guidelines and confidentiality agreements as all other employees.
- ◆ The (name of your YA consortium) serves ## high schools in the (your area) area. We have ### students participating in apprenticeships in ## different YA areas. A wide variety of partners apply to operate consortia. Representatives of employers, schools, technical colleges, workforce development boards, and other stakeholders serve on each consortium steering committee.
- ◆ Our YA program would not be possible without the support of local employers that see the value in providing hands-on training to the future workforce. Employers like ###, ### and ### have taken on Youth Apprentices and gained motivated and willing employees while providing work-based learning.
- ◆ Youth Apprenticeship provides hands-on applied, real-world learning at worksites; career pathway choices, and youth post-secondary options. YA also offers dual credit/technical college articulations and is endorsed by business and industry.
- ◆ Getting students involved and engaged early will strengthen our economy by ensuring that business has the skilled workforce they need to thrive and expand.