



ECEDC

Spring Newsletter

Workforce Development Edition

Lake Land College Apprenticeship Partnerships

Traditionally, apprenticeships are associated with careers in trade unions. However, the reality is that apprenticeships are expanding to include multiple career paths. In response to the workforce shortages and growing skills gap, state and national leaders are investing in organizations that develop apprenticeships.

At the beginning of 2025, the governor and Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced a nearly \$10 million investment in pre-apprenticeship programs through the Illinois Works program. Last year Lake Land College, Rend Lake and Illinois Eastern Community College submitted a collaborative proposal to grow partnerships. Their success in establishing 41 registered apprenticeship programs was among the many reasons DCEO funded the grant proposal.

In an apprenticeship partnership, employers drive the development of customized curriculum, in partnership with the local community college, to support the skills needs of the organization. Employers then select new employees to enter an apprenticeship training program or invest in current employees to upskill their knowledge. With this commitment, businesses are reducing turnover, creating a talent pipeline, increasing productivity and diversifying their workforce. In addition, by establishing an apprenticeship training program, they are setting standards for knowledge and skills and ensuring a continuity of learning among generations.

Through grants and alternate financial sources, Lake Land College can assist businesses in funding apprenticeships for college students and pre-apprenticeships for high school students. In developing these programs, they work with companies to establish a beneficial schedule and specifically outline every detail of the training objectives. Lake Land College is engaged in two apprenticeships in Industrial Maintenance and Repair and is in the process of developing additional programs in Automotive Technician and Commercial Driver's License. - Dr. Josh Bullock, Lake Land College President.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Shelby County Health Fair

The SAIL office, serving Shelby and Moultrie counties, and the University of Illinois Extension are hosting the Shelby County Health Fair on Thursday, May 1, 2025.

Due to the number of agencies and businesses interested in participating in this year's event, the fair will be held in two different sessions.

8:30 -10:30 a.m. will feature agencies or businesses that provide Life Planning Skills, Assistive Living & Supportive Living Facilities and Nursing & Rehabilitation Services. Over 20 different agencies are providing information about the services available.

12:30 - 2:30 p.m. will focus on the agencies or businesses that provide Community, Health and Home-Based Services available in Moultrie, Shelby and surrounding counties.

At this time over 24 different entities will be present to answer questions and provide information about services useful to living independently.

For more information or a list of the agencies participating in the two sessions described above, please contact Betty Watkins at bwatkins@decatur sail.com or 217-774-4322.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Thursday, May 15, 2025 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Shelbyville SAIL office
1604 West Main, Suite 100, Shelbyville IL

Office of Accountability

Curious about the grant lifecycle or wanting to learn more about the different facets of grants? Do you have a grant-related question that you would like answered in real time? DCEO is pleased to offer three training options for current and potential grantees. Interested in participating in a training session? Learn more and sign up to register at dceo.illinois.gov.

Virtual Office Hour Q & A - Tuesdays at 2pm:

Join for a virtual question and answer session via Webex in which potential and current Grantees may attend to ask questions and seek assistance.

Technical Support Managers will be online to field questions, demonstrate steps, or provide instructions as needed to assist entities and individuals with the grant process.

Pre-Qualification Training – 1st Wednesday of the month 9AM: Presentation on Pre-Qualification requirements.

Various topics Training – 3rd Wednesday of the month 9AM: Grant management topics. Register or view past recordings at dceo.illinois.gov.

• May 21, 2025 – Completing a Budget Application:

This training will introduce the budget application and instructions on how to best complete the budget.

• Jun 18, 2025 – Reporting and Supporting

Documents: This training will explain the Periodic Performance Report and Periodic Financial Report.

• **July 16, 2025 – Indirect Cost Rates:** This training will introduce Grantees to the Indirect Cost Rate system, different types of elections and requirements, and roles and responsibilities of stakeholders.

• August 20, 2025 – Help Desk Overview and

Resources: (CSFA, GATA) This training will provide insight on the resources available to potential and current Grantees as they navigate the Grant process.

• September 17, 2025 – Writing a Grant Application:

This training will explain how to complete application documents, how to read a Notice of Funding Opportunity, and how to submit the application package for review.

BECOME A PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Working for people with disabilities

- Free training
- Flexible schedule
- Must be 18 years old to attend

Only individuals registered for the training may attend

For more information, call 217-876-8888 or e-mail edobson@decaturmail.com

*Social distancing will be practiced



SAIL

Joyful Access to Independent Living



The Personal Assistant Recruitment & Training Program is intended to help you to prepare to provide assistance to persons with disabilities. The program is sponsored by the Illinois Department of Human Services – Division of Rehabilitation Services and regulated by Title 89 of the Illinois Administrative Code, Part 686.

Effingham County CEO

Effingham County CEO was established in the fall of 2008, with the support of local business community partners and area schools to create experiential learning opportunities for students. More than a business course, CEO allows students to learn from local business leaders and develop workforce skills of problem solving, team work, self-motivation, responsibility, communication and professionalism. CEO gives high school students real-world experiences to help them think and act like entrepreneurs. This program builds future leaders and strengthens your community with both workforce and economic development.

To learn more, visit
<https://www.effinghamceo.com/>