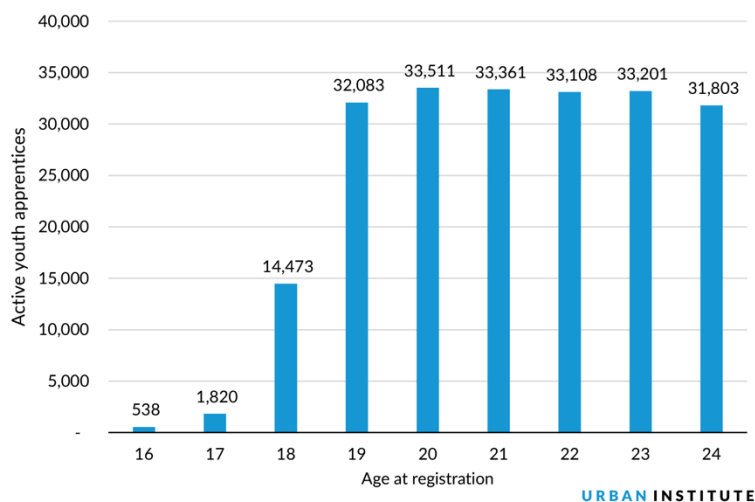


Youth Apprenticeship Advancement Act

Introduced by Senators Hickenlooper and Braun

FIGURE 2
Active youth apprentices (ages 16 to 24), by age, 2021



Source: Authors' calculations from RAPIDS data

Notes: There were 213,898 apprentices active in 2021 who were between the ages of 16 and 24 at registration. Apprentices included are those in programs in the states that report to the RAPIDS database or nationally registered programs.

- Youth apprenticeships are critical pathways to building a career for a high-school or postsecondary student.
- For employers, investing early builds a workforce pipeline which pays dividends long-term.
- We need more youth apprenticeship opportunities to fully prepare our workforce for the 21st century.
- Only 2.7% of apprentices registered in 2021 were 16-18.
- Only 20 states have a statewide definition of youth apprenticeship to differentiate between apprenticeship and other work-based learning opportunities.

Bill Overview

The Youth Apprenticeship Advancement Act seeks to promote a expand youth apprenticeship through a competitive grant program to eligible entities.

- The Department of Labor (DOL) will award 5-year competitive grants to eligible partnerships, which can be multiple entities, but must include at least one state or local education agency and at least one program sponsor, which can be an employer.
- Eligible youth apprentices will be 16-22 and enrolled in or returning to high school at the beginning of the program.
- Youth apprentices will be engaged in work-based learning and related instruction allowing them to earn education and apprenticeship credentials.
- The Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Education, will design and conduct an evaluation of program efficacy, 2 years after the first awarded funds.
- The Youth Apprenticeship Advancement Act will award \$100 million per year for 5 years of a grant program and will be offset using funds from the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Fee Account.

The Youth Apprenticeship Advancement Act is supported by: CareerWise, Colorado Workforce Development Council, Jobs for the Future (JFF), Zurich North America, and Progressive Policy Institute (PPI).

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