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## Secretary Newson Announces \$2.2 Million in Youth Apprenticeship Grants

WAUSAU – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson today joined Northcentral Technical College (NTC) President Lori Weyers, area employers, and youth apprentices to announce the statewide release of \$2.2 million in Youth Apprenticeship (YA) grants for the 2014-15 school year. NTC operates one of the largest YA consortiums in the state, the North Central Wisconsin School-to-Career Partnership, which will serve more than 300 students in the coming school year.

"Wisconsin's Youth Apprenticeship program allows high school students to explore high-demand careers and is nationally recognized as a successful model," said Secretary Newson. "Youth Apprenticeship has experienced a significant increase in state funding under Governor Walker's leadership and is part of his agenda to develop Wisconsin's workforce and prepare the current and future generation of workers to obtain the skills training needed for jobs that employers need to fill."

The YA program operates as a partnership between local service providers like technical colleges or chambers of commerce, school districts, and employers. The grants, totaling \$2.2 million for the upcoming school year, will go to 32 regional consortiums and train hundreds of high school students.

Wisconsin's YA program has operated since 1991 and today includes 40 different occupations. Participants choose an occupation and interview with participating employers. The program includes a blend of on-the-job training and technical college-level instruction at the participant's high school. Those who complete the program receive a Youth Apprenticeship completion certificate, may receive technical college credit, and graduate with the skills needed to accept an entry-level position in their area.

The YA program was lauded by the Harvard Graduate School of Education as an "Exemplar of Employer Engagement" in the 2011 *Pathways to Prosperity* report. The report noted the high number of YA graduates who receive a post-secondary degree and are employed after high school. Additionally, the report noted that 98% of employers would recommend the program to fellow employers.

In the 2013-14 school year, DWD awarded more than \$1.8 million in youth apprenticeship grants to train more than 2,200 high school juniors and seniors at more than 1,600 Wisconsin businesses. Participating students were drawn from 227 school districts around the state. Program areas with the highest enrollment included manufacturing with 517 students, health care with 445 students, and agriculture, food & natural resources, which had 419 participants.

The graduation rate for eligible youth apprentices was 81% in the 2012-13 school year. Additionally, 84% of two-year youth apprenticeship graduates were offered employment by the employer that provided their training.

In December 2013, Governor Walker signed 2013 Wisconsin Act 112, which increased state YA funds by \$1 million in the current biennium.

(more)

## Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship 2014-15 Grant Awards

Consortium	Applicant County <sup>1</sup>	Funds Awarded
South Central Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Partnership	Dane	\$341,276.87
North Central Wisconsin School-to-Career Partnership	Marathon	\$283,500.00
CESA 6	Winnebago	\$185,756.87
Waukesha County School-to-Work Partnership	Waukesha	\$148,496.87
GPS Education Partners Consortium	Waukesha	\$135,086.87
Fond du Lac Consortium	Fond du Lac	\$93,416.87
CESA 5	Columbia	\$81,266.87
CESA 11	Barron	\$80,456.87
Sheboygan Area Youth Apprenticeship Consortium	Sheboygan	\$73,976.87
Rock County School-to-Work	Rock	\$59,400.00
Chippewa Valley Youth Apprenticeship Consortium	Chippewa	\$58,852.67
Manitowoc County Youth Apprenticeship	Manitowoc	\$58,500.00
Southwest Wisconsin	Grant	\$54,986.87
Milton-Edgerton School-to-Work Partnership	Rock	\$52,714.37
St. Croix Valley	St Croix	\$50,666.87
Green Bay Area Partners in Education	Brown	\$46,886.87
Mid-Wisconsin School-to-Work Partnership	Wood	\$46,678.07
Wolf River School-to-Work Partnership	Shawano	\$45,000.00
Racine Area Manufacturers and Commerce	Racine	\$43,066.87
North Central Career and Technical Education Consortium	Lincoln	\$38,544.27
Mississippi Valley Youth Apprenticeship Consortium	La Crosse	\$36,806.87
South Shore Suburban Consortium	Milwaukee	\$31,500.00
Workforce 2020	Ozaukee	\$25,466.87
Marinette-Oconto Consortium	Oconto	\$23,306.87
Trempealeau Valley Consortium	Trempealeau	\$21,109.37
Central Wisconsin Consortium	Wood	\$18,626.98
Gateway District Youth Apprenticeship Consortium	Kenosha	\$18,266.87
Door Kewaunee Business & Education Partnership	Door	\$18,266.87
Milwaukee Public Schools	Milwaukee	\$16,016.87
CESA 1	Milwaukee	\$16,016.87
School District of Mauston	Juneau	\$16,016.87
Northwest Career and Education Partnership	Ashland	\$13,766.87
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,233,700.00</b>

1: Applicant County is the county of the organization administering the grant; consortiums may serve students in additional counties.

The YA grant award summary provides additional information on awards and the estimated number of students who will be served in the coming school year. The summary can be found [online](#).

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