



Work-Based Learning
and Apprenticeship

Now Accepting Applications

Group Sponsor Grant Opportunity

State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula (SAEF 3 – Formula | Round 3)

Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD)

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) is excited to announce the next round of **SAEF Group Sponsor Grant funding for 2026**. This opportunity is open to employers, education and training providers, workforce organizations, and other qualified entities interested in **creating or expanding Group Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs)** across Indiana.

Why Apply?

Group Sponsors bring multiple employers together under a single U.S. Department of Labor–approved Registered Apprenticeship Program, creating shared infrastructure that:

- Expands access to high-quality, good-paying apprenticeship opportunities for Hoosiers
- Reduces administrative burden for employers
- Strengthens regional talent pipelines
- Increases apprenticeship participation among employers of all sizes

Awarded organizations will help expand the number of RAPs, employer partners, and apprentices statewide while building **communities of practice** that support long-term program sustainability.

Who Can Apply?

Eligible applicants include:

- Registered Apprenticeship Intermediaries
- Accredited postsecondary institutions
- Regional Workforce Development Boards

- Current Group Sponsors
- Trade associations
- Other qualified nonprofit or public entities

Applicants must have (or obtain) registered bidder status with the State of Indiana and maintain an active **SAM.gov** registration for the grant period.

Funding Available

Applicants may request **up to \$30,000**, based on the size of their Group Sponsorship program:

Program Status	Employer Partners	Max Award
New Group Sponsor	2+ employers	Up to \$20,000
Existing	2–4 employers	Up to \$15,000
Existing	5–7 employers	Up to \$20,000
Existing	8+ employers	Up to \$30,000

Past awardees may qualify for a higher award level with documented program growth.

No match is required.

Grant Period

- **Grant Term:** January 1, 2026 – May 29, 2027
- **Overall SAEF 3 Period of Performance:** July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028
- Continuation is contingent upon funding availability, performance, and compliance.

Program Expectations

Group Sponsors are legally responsible for operating RAPs in compliance with federal regulations (29 CFR Parts 29 & 30), including maintaining approved standards, managing employer participation, entering apprentice data into RAPIDS, and meeting Equal Employment Opportunity requirements.

Funded activities include employer outreach, apprenticeship program expansion, reporting, and coordination. Quarterly performance and financial reports are required.

Key Dates

- **Application Deadline:** February 26, 2026 | 5:00 PM ET
- **Award Notifications:** By March 15, 2026
- **Apply Online:** *Apply HERE!*

Ready to Build Apprenticeship Capacity in Indiana?

If your organization is committed to expanding Registered Apprenticeship and supporting employers through shared sponsorship, this funding opportunity can help you scale impact statewide.

Apply today and help grow Indiana's apprenticeship ecosystem.

[Apply HERE!](#)