

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, National Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its 7th anniversary of raising awareness of the vital role that Registered Apprenticeships play in providing opportunities in the Commonwealth by allowing apprentices to earn while they learn and preparing a pathway to well-paying careers and the ability to advance in those careers; and

Whereas, Commonwealth employers have found registered apprenticeship to be a critical tool to access and recruit new, inclusive workforce talent pipelines, rapidly skill up employees, and meet industry hiring and business expansion needs; and

Whereas, Registered Apprenticeship programs are uniquely able to meet the changing demands of Massachusetts' economy as a critical tool in retraining transitioning career seekers, addressing existing employee skills gaps, and providing a path for all qualified individuals to become apprentices and contribute to the Commonwealth's industries; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth recognizes that registered apprenticeship is a proven, industry-driven training model that yields a strong return on investment, for businesses, jobseekers, and government; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth is committed to the expansion of registered apprenticeship into new industries and occupations, targeting technology, healthcare, advanced manufacturing, life sciences, financial services, and others; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in all industries participating and enrolling registered apprentices with the Division of Apprentice Standards, which is critical in meeting the needs of the building trades and construction industry, and represents the majority of Registered Apprenticeships in Massachusetts; and

Whereas, The Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development and the Administration's Workforce Skills Cabinet has developed an Apprenticeship Expansion Plan aiming to increase the number of new Registered Apprenticeships in technology, healthcare, advanced manufacturing and other industries, and diversify the apprenticeship workforce; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth, in 2021, has awarded more than \$2.5 million in grants to organizations dedicated to expanding and diversifying apprenticeship in Massachusetts including supporting apprenticeship programs and services in technology, healthcare, advanced manufacturing, construction, life sciences, and human services occupations, among many others; and

Whereas, this week is recognized as Apprenticeship Week in the Commonwealth as part of a nationwide celebration that enables businesses, communities, and educators to come together to learn about and celebrate the opportunity of registered apprenticeship; and

Whereas, The Commonwealth implores all industries to act and adopt and grow registered apprenticeship as a tool to close existing skills gaps, realize a strong return on investment, and help Massachusetts businesses and economy continue to grow and thrive; and

Whereas, This Call to Action will help expand and diversify apprenticeship, and positively impact the citizens of this great Commonwealth—both apprentices and the businesses alike,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim
November 15th - 21st, 2021, to be,

MASSACHUSETTS APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this First day of November, in the year two thousand and twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fifth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in blue ink.

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in blue ink.

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of William Francis Galvin in blue ink.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts