

Dear Industry Leader,



Thank you for your interest in the Maryland Apprenticeship Ambassador Program!

The Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation is committed to fulfilling Governor Hogan's promise and mission to change Maryland for the better. Developing Maryland's apprenticeship program is a big part of that change, and a priority for our agency.

The Hogan administration's commitment to apprenticeship has shown significant results. Since January 2015, the number of registered apprentices has increased by nearly 20 percent. New registered apprenticeship programs have been approved and old programs re-activated. Now, nearly 9,600 registered apprentices are learning and earning in more than 230 occupations. All in all, 2017 was a banner year for the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Program.

"No one knows better the power of apprenticeship than our industry leaders. They know firsthand that apprenticeship creates a pipeline of qualified talent for Maryland job creators. That experience makes them natural spokespeople, who can champion apprenticeship throughout the state and help make registered apprenticeship available for all Marylanders in all industries and occupations."

Sec. Schulz (2017) State announces Maryland apprenticeship ambassador program [Press Release]

I invite you to join us in our success! By becoming an apprenticeship ambassador, you will help prepare today's workers for the careers of tomorrow.

Our ambassadors are on the front line of workforce development. You will be in-the-know about developing international, national, regional, and local trends in workforce development and training. You will learn from colleagues in other industries, and gain ideas for maximizing your workforce investment. Lastly – but most importantly – you will help spread the word about the power of apprenticeship through outreach to other organizations and outlets.

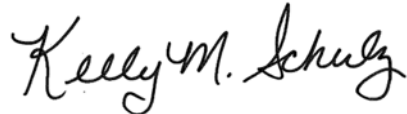
If you are interested in becoming an apprenticeship ambassador, here is your next step. Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions:

1. Please tell us about your organization. Are you a Maryland registered apprenticeship sponsor? If not, what programs, if any, do you currently have that may be similar to the idea of apprenticeships? Why does getting involved with Maryland's Apprenticeship Ambassador Program appeal to your organization?
2. What are you seeking to gain as an apprenticeship ambassador? (e.g., general education about apprenticeships, information on how to use apprenticeships effectively within your company or organization, networking with others looking for the same opportunities)

Please send your responses to our Director of Apprenticeship and Training Chris MacLarion, at christopher.maclarion@maryland.gov. If you have any questions about our program or its requirements, Chris will be glad to answer any questions or concerns you have. He can also be reached at (410) 767-3969.

Thank you again for your interest in serving as a Maryland apprenticeship ambassador. We look forward to working together to help spread the word about apprenticeship in Maryland!

Best Regards,



Secretary Kelly M. Schulz
Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

P.S. The attached summary of responsibilities and incentives tells you more about our program and how you can join our apprenticeship ambassador team to help change Maryland for the better!

