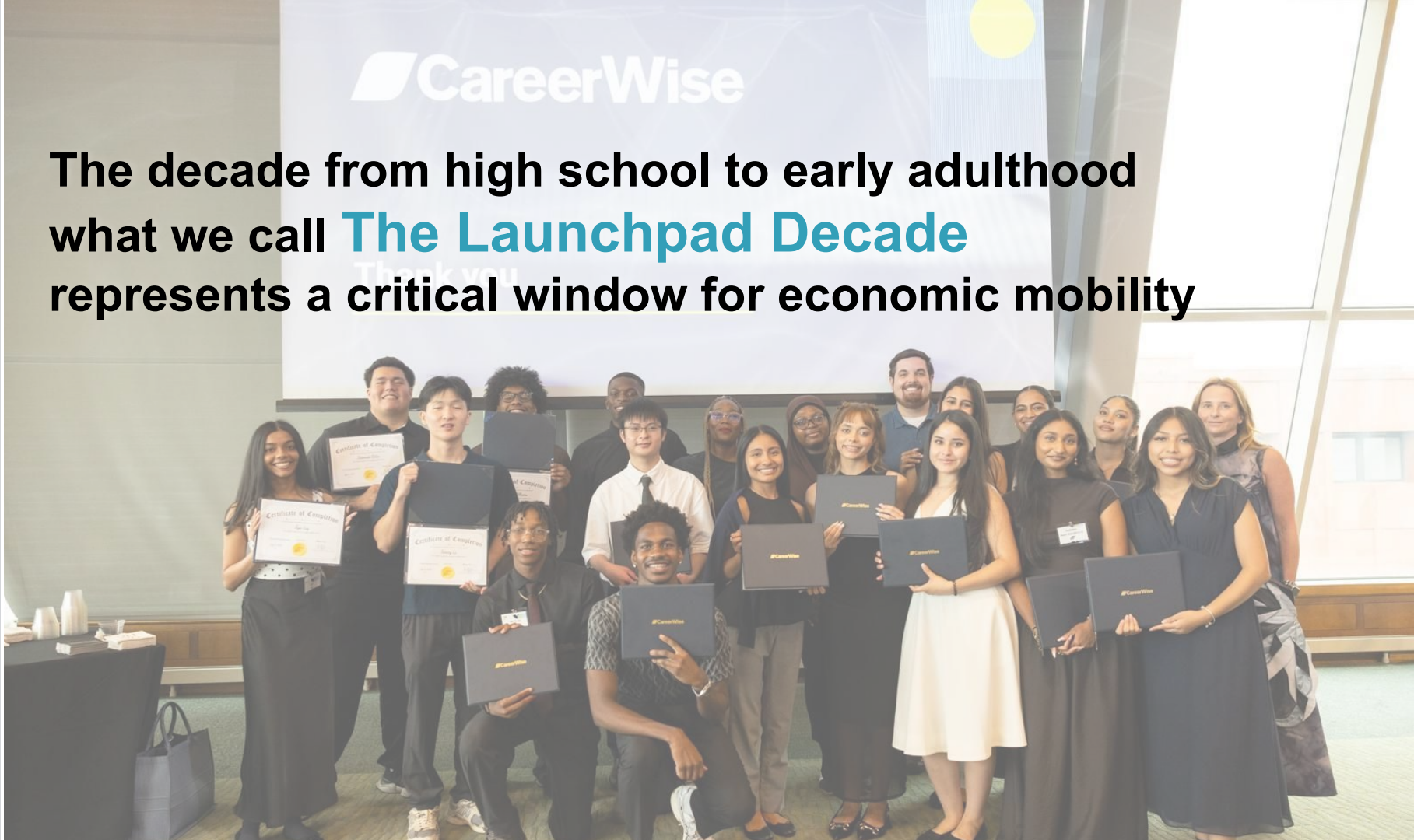


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The decade from high school to early adulthood what we call The Launchpad Decade represents a critical window for economic mobility

Why Now — Why Apprenticeship

Young people are contending with three compounding pressures:

Affordability

College students have accrued **$1.6 trillion** in student debt nationally

Anxiety

50% of young adults report symptoms of anxiety or depression

AI

55% of young workers are worried about job security due to AI

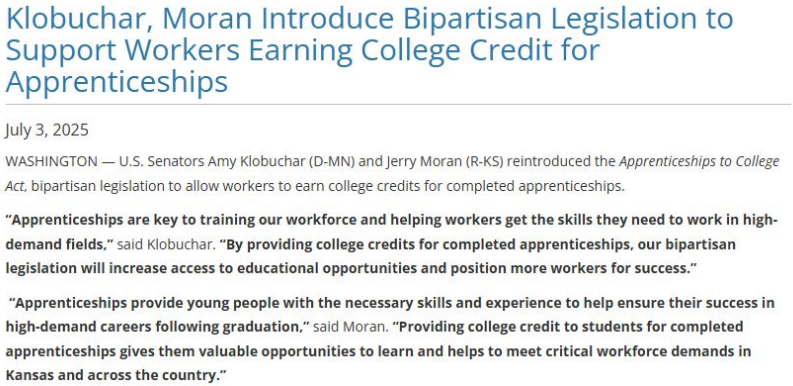
Apprenticeship uniquely tackles the three A's collectively.

Apprenticeship Consistently Draws Bipartisan Support



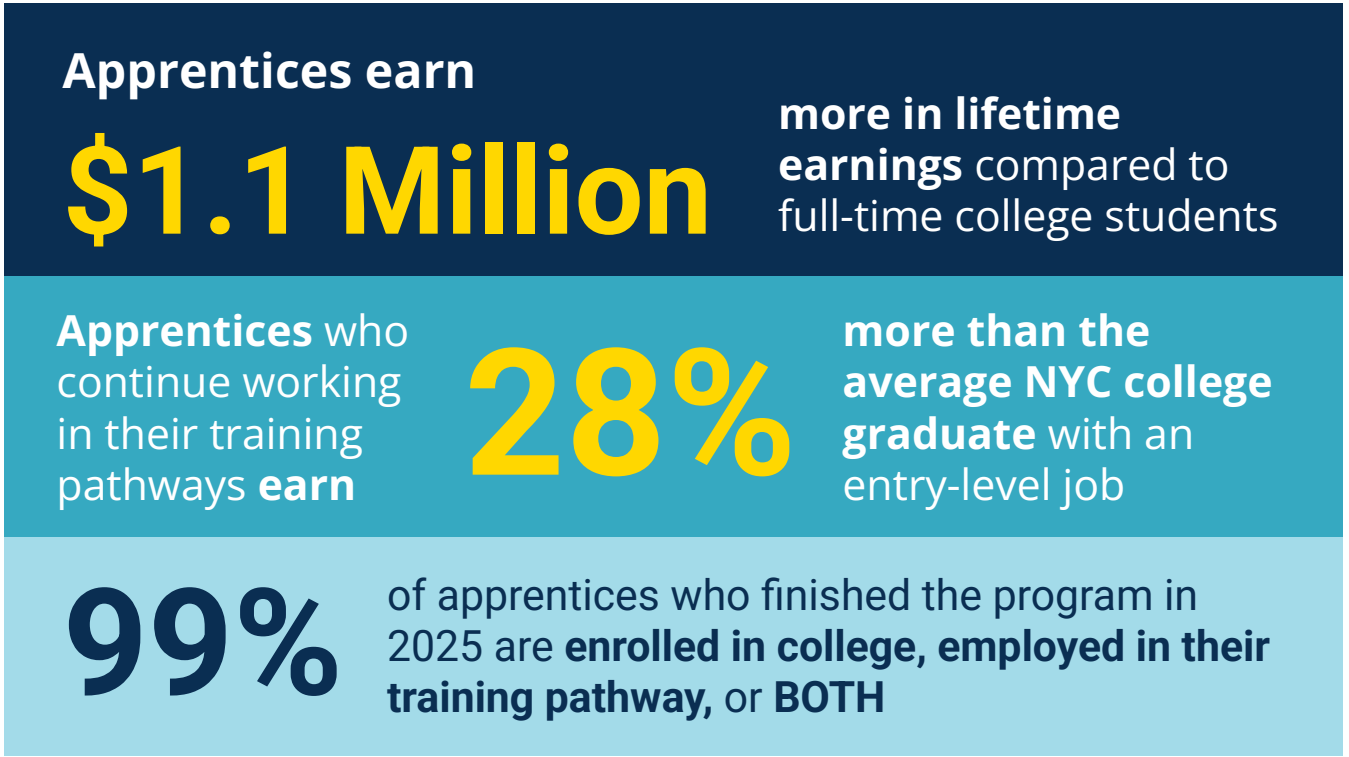






Apprenticeship is Succeeding: NYC Case Study

Career Readiness and Modern Youth Apprenticeship (CRMYA)



We Know This Works. It’s Time to Scale.

Why haven’t models like apprenticeship scaled?
A decade on the front lines revealed three foundational answers.

Engage Sectors, Not Just Employers

Employers act when their sector acts. Individual employer commitment is necessary but not sufficient to drive market transformation. Regardless of motivation, **this work requires collective sector action**.

Build Systems, Not Just Programs

Apprenticeship sits outside most education funding frameworks when it could be a driving strategy for high school redesign. Career pathways are allowed or enabled — but not always rewarded. Good programs survive despite the policy environment; **they cannot scale without the right policy conditions in place.**

Replicate What Works

Apprenticeship Ready Schools all share a small number of key features essential to their success. Drawing on the experience and learnings from existing Apprentice Ready Schools, our forthcoming playbook will serve as a blueprint for administrators, educators, and industry to create ecosystems that support students in their Apprenticeship journey.

What is the Center?

Apprenticeship America Cohorts | 10 States | June 2026 - December 2028

Building Sustainable State Ecosystems to Expand Youth Access to Registered Apprenticeships

- **Expert-led strategic consulting** customized to each state's unique priorities
- **National infrastructure toolkits**, frameworks, and resources to support delivery
- **Systemic problem solving** through peer learning network
- **Catalytic implementation funding** to support state-level system design

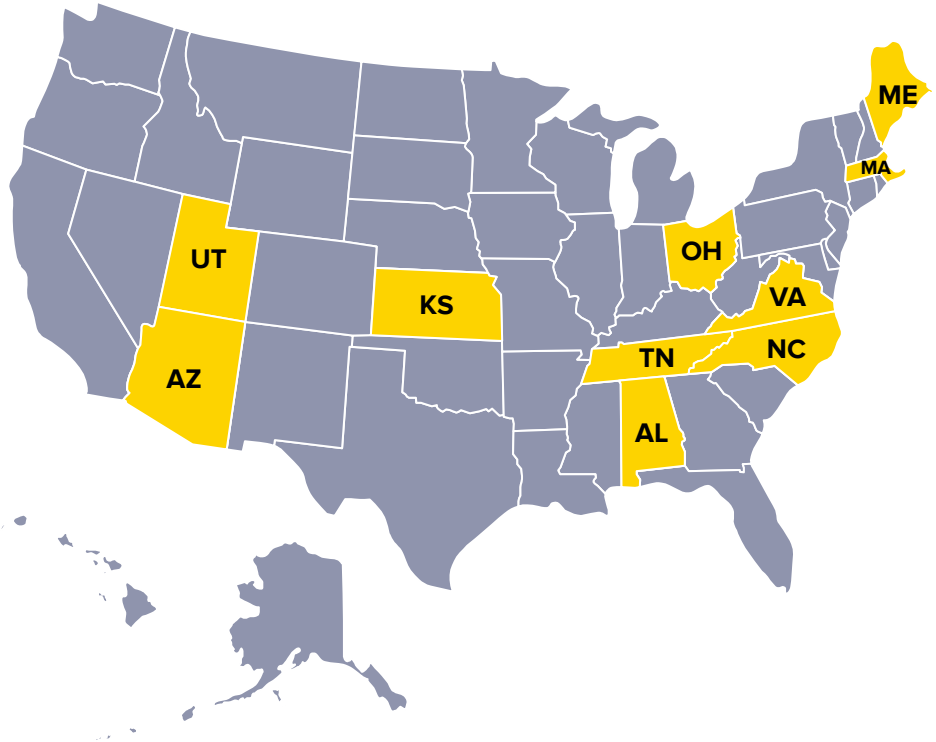
Driving towards the goal of 1 million apprentices.

The 10 States

future ready APPRENTICESHIP CENTER
Powered by CareerWise

Meet the Inaugural Apprenticeship America Cohort Members

- Alabama
- Arizona
- Kansas
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Virginia



How The Center States are Leading

Emerging Best Practices

State Organizational Systems

States are engaging in strategic planning and building of state plans to build cross-agency and cross-stakeholder alignment within states to support the growth of registered apprenticeship

Pillars

- Pathways and Readiness (supply)
- Industry Leadership (demand)
- System Integration
- Local Delivery
- Feedback Loops

Highly Productive Organizing Activities

- Hosting an employer focused Myth-Busting webinar
- In-person visits to schools and businesses to address onboarding barriers
- Creating cross-agency MOU
- Building relationships and trust that enable working together

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Thank you for attending!

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