



ATD Coordinators & Partners Meeting Questions

The questions below were asked by attendees of the Apprenticeship and Training Division (ATD) Coordinators & Partners Meeting on August 5th, 2026. You can click on a question to be taken directly to its response.

1. What percentage of apprenticeships are construction versus non-construction?
2. Is there anything in the pipeline for non-traditional apprenticeships?
3. What is the utilization of the Childcare for Construction program? What is the maximum monthly amount?
4. How is the Childcare for Construction program funded?
5. Why is the childcare fund only offered to construction workers and no other groups?
6. Are there any updates regarding further compliance or other reviews for committee administrators in the next two quarters of 2026?
7. Are there any efforts to expand compulsory apprenticeship occupations in Oregon?
8. There are big barriers to people who are involved in the justice system, particularly veterans, in housing and employment. What apprenticeship programs are friendly to criminal histories?
9. What is getting audited when BOLI does a regular audit of a JATC or apprenticeship program? How frequently are there compliance issues with committee compositions?
10. During a compliance review, does BOLI validate what the RSI plan is and if the program is actually following it? For example, they have so many hours allotted to hands-on training but are conducting everything virtually.
11. What is the best way to handle when we have issued apprenticeship cards, then the job falls through and now we have someone who has no experience in the trade that has an apprenticeship card?

1. What percentage of apprenticeships are construction versus non-construction?

Building construction, maintenance, and repair make up 85-plus percent of the registered apprentices. Electrical trades altogether approach 50 percent of all the apprentices in Oregon. What we see across those compulsory trades that require you to be an apprentice to learn the trade (electrical, plumbing, and elevator constructor) make up 60-plus percent of all apprentices in Oregon. Then add the rest of the construction trades on and they clearly dominate.

2. Is there anything in the pipeline for non-traditional apprenticeships?

Surgical technologists, behavioral health occupations, certified in-home childcare provider, building inspector, well drilling, expand teacher pathways, and potentially an acupuncturist

3. What is the utilization of the Childcare for Construction program? What is the maximum monthly amount?

As of right now, we have 88 families are participating in the program. They are averaging about \$1,100 a month in childcare subsidies. \$2,500 per family a month is the cap. We have room to grow, so please help to get the word out.

4. How is the Childcare for Construction program funded?

Federal monies that funneled through the state coming to us from Business Oregon. This is part of the 'CHIPS ACT' that the governor signed.

5. Why is the childcare fund only offered to construction workers and no other groups?

It's based on the state law that set the parameters for who could be covered through the Childcare for Construction program. It is federal monies and a little bit of state monies got added to it. There was money set aside by the governor to ensure that we had the requisite construction workforce to build out the chip manufacturing industry here in the state of Oregon through the CHIPS Act. We were successful in opening up subsidies to line workers (the outside electricians that actually bring the electricity to the facilities), but to expand it to our manufacturing trades or non-traditional trades was just not in the legislation.

There are also opportunities that veterans have utilizing the Veterans Educational Bridge Grant. This is just for those that are currently on the out-of-work list to receive money. For more information, you can reach out to Diandra Dzib (Diandra.DZIB@odva.oregon.gov) at the Oregon

Department of Veteran Affairs. If you have any issues getting a hold of them, please reach out to BOLI's Veterans Affairs Coordinator Aaron Unpingco (Aaron.UNPINGCO@boli.oregon.gov).

6. Are there any updates regarding further compliance or other reviews for committee administrators in the next two quarters of 2026?

As our compliance team is now finalized, we are gearing up for the next year of compliance reviews. We will soon send out communications to programs who are coming up for review and additional communications will be sent to all partners in our next quarterly newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the timing of your upcoming compliance review, please reach out to ATD.Compliance@boli.oregon.gov

7. Are there any efforts to expand compulsory apprenticeship occupations in Oregon?

We are not aware of any initiatives to make registered apprenticeship compulsory across any other occupations than what we have in Oregon currently (electrical, plumbing, and elevator construction). We've seen some public owners and state officials through legislation pass apprentice labor hour requirements on public works projects. There have been a number of initiatives to try to get businesses to put training apprentices into the bottom line of their business calculations. This would be a question for the legislature.

8. There are big barriers to people who are involved in the justice system, particularly veterans, is housing and employment. What apprenticeship programs are friendly to criminal histories?

There might be places that you can't get security clearances to go to. The one parameter that comes around is if, for example, I'm a sheet metal worker with a criminal past and I get dispatched out to work on the Portland International Airport. Those are the kinds of considerations, but it's not an impediment for getting involved in occupational training through apprenticeship.

9. What is getting audited when BOLI does a regular audit of a JATC or apprenticeship program? How frequently are there compliance issues with committee compositions?

It depends if we are talking about a regular compliance review, one that's coming up where we're just going through what the statute very clearly enumerates what is within the scope of that kind of a review, verses a review that comes about because there's an investigation with legitimate

concerns that have been brought. That process looks very different. It often is going to be bespoke to whatever the allegations are. We have the authority under ORS to look into different things. There are also things that we do not have jurisdiction over. That's where it can be a little bit tricky understanding where the ATD lane stops and where potentially other entities have.

ATD staff took the initiative last year to develop updated guidance around committee qualifications and attestation forms that we are now using and deploying as a useful tool to our committees. We've had a couple of investigations that have involved improper committee composition and is a focal point of attention and will continue to be as we work with committees to ensure that they're properly constituted. The power of the apprenticeship system is that the workers who actually do the work get to be part of that training conversation at the table with their employer partners.

10. During a compliance review, does BOLI validate what the RSI plan is and if the program is actually following it? For example, they have so many hours allotted to hands-on training but are conducting everything virtually.

That is absolutely part of the scope of our compliance reviews. We look at apprentice files to ensure that we see evidence of attendance. It could also be reviewed if an official complaint has been submitted. You don't have to be the person who is affected by the situation to submit the complaint. Any interested members of the public can submit a complaint.

11. What is the best way to handle when we have issued apprenticeship cards, then the job falls through and now we have someone who has no experience in the trade that has an apprenticeship card?

While the apprentice card does have an expiration date, there really is no way to collect all those cards back when these apprentices get canceled or suspended. The most important part is making sure that the committee is taking proper action, meaning that if they are terminating, suspending, transferring apprentices to a different training agent, ect, it is recorded within the set of minutes with the committee. That way if anything does happen and the apprentice goes off on their own, the committee took action to either terminate or suspend. That relieves committees because now that apprentice is deciding to do something with a card that isn't really a valid card anymore and you will have that letter that you sent to them indicating what was covered and what wasn't. Making sure that committees are coding apprentices properly and taking action is one of the most important things to do.