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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio Named Early Leader in Apprenticeship Push

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio has been selected as one of 10 states to participate in the national Apprenticeship America cohort, a new Future Ready Apprenticeship Center initiative designed to expand industry-led registered apprenticeship systems and strengthen career pathways for young people.

The cohort positions Ohio as an early leader in helping young people become part of President Donald Trump's national goal of 1 million active apprentices. The announcement also highlights Ohio's goal of helping meet demand for 70,000 workers in advanced manufacturing, underscoring the urgency of stronger connections between education, workforce development and employer needs.

“Ohio is honored to be selected, and we're ready to get to work,” said Ryan Augsburger, president of the Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA). “Manufacturers need talent systems built around real jobs and real skills. Through OMA and our Industry Sector Partnerships, Ohio has already built a strong employer-led foundation. This partnership will help us move faster, connect students to careers sooner and strengthen the talent pipeline Ohio needs to compete.”

The OMA will play a leading role in Ohio's participation, building on the state's growing network of Industry Sector Partnerships and the recently launched Ohio Manufacturing Workforce Blueprint, a statewide strategy to align education and training with the real-world needs of manufacturers.

Through Apprenticeship America, Ohio will gain access to strategic consulting, technical assistance, peer learning and \$200,000 in catalytic implementation funding to help expand registered apprenticeship opportunities for high school students and young adults and strengthen education-to-career pathways in an increasingly AI-driven economy. Ohio was selected through a competitive process alongside Alabama, Arizona, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Tennessee, Utah and Virginia.

OMA's current workforce efforts include the development of Technician Fast Track, a one-year earn-and-learn program designed by manufacturers to help employers build technician talent more efficiently and at scale. The program pilot is expected to launch this summer through Industry Sector Partnerships, including the Central Ohio Manufacturing Partnership, MAGNET and the Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition.

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The Ohio Manufacturers' Association is Ohio's largest statewide business association composed

solely of manufacturers. Established in 1910, the OMA's mission is to protect and grow Ohio manufacturing. It represents manufacturers of all sizes in every subsector of the industry. Manufacturing is Ohio's largest economic sector, employing approximately 690,000 Ohioans and contributing more than \$138 billion annually to the economy. Visit ohiomfg.com, or follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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