

APPRENTICE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



2025 COHORT ANNOUNCEMENT

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM 2025

- Apprenticeship Illinois Committee Background
- 2024 Ambassador Program Highlights
- Official Announcement of 2025 Apprentice Ambassadors

ILLINOIS WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD (IWIB)



ILLINOIS WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

- **GOVERNOR APPOINTED**
Leaders from state, business, industry, labor, education, and community-based organizations with the goal of evaluating and meeting Illinois workforce needs.
- **UNIFIED STATE PLAN**
oversees the Unified State Plan's development, implementation, and modification.
- **POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**
IWIB representatives from private/public partner programs offer policy recommendations through structured committees and task forces.
- **STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK**
Objectives and priority activities require IWIB's commitment to work alongside local-level counterpart members and supporters of Local Workforce Innovation Boards and partner agencies.

APPRENTICESHIP ILLINOIS COMMITTEE (AIC)



● COMMITTEE OF THE IWIB

The Apprenticeship Illinois Committee is one of 5 content-focused committees of the IWIB.

● WORKGROUPS

The Committee has 3 Workgroups, which currently include:

- Marketing
- Youth Apprenticeship
- Apprentice Ambassador Program

● COMMITTEE GOALS

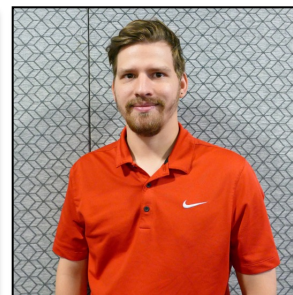
1. Expanding apprenticeships geographically and to new industries.
2. Increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in apprenticeship.
3. Formalizing statewide apprenticeship coordination across partnering state agencies.
4. Growing statewide capacity to provide apprenticeship opportunities to job seekers and businesses.

2024 COHORT

Celebrating our first year!

2024 was the first year of the Apprentice Ambassador Program with the Apprentice Ambassador Workgroup.

We have been honored to work with these fantastic individuals and see how they have continued to grow in their professional journey!





KICK-OFF!

We had a great first in-person event (despite inclement weather) at Joliet Junior College!

Ambassadors got to network with AIC leadership, gain professional development on public speaking, LinkedIn, and setting SMART goals.

OTHER 2024 EVENTS

Just a look at some of the other opportunities our Ambassadors participated in!



WIOA SUMMIT (NOW ILLINOIS WORKFORCE SUMMIT)

Ambassadors shared their lived experiences with apprenticeships to over 100 workforce development professionals in April 2024.



CHICAGO APPRENTICE NETWORK

Gayle spoke to the annual gathering of the Chicago Apprentice Network on her experience as an IT Professional with Northwestern Medicine.



EMPLOYER ROUNDTABLES

Zoe & Alan communicated the value and opportunity apprenticeship provides businesses who invest in their employees.

THE BIG REVEAL - 2025 AMBASSADORS

Now for the moment you've been waiting for! Time to reveal our Apprentice Ambassadors for 2025!



Fairmont
CHICAGO
MILLENNIUM PARK

DARRYL HALL

Employer: Fairmont Chicago
City: Chicago
Apprenticeship: Banquet Cook





DAVID THOMPSON

Employer: Zurich North America
City: Hoffman Estates
Apprenticeship: IT Service Delivery Associate



**UNITED
AIRLINES**



A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

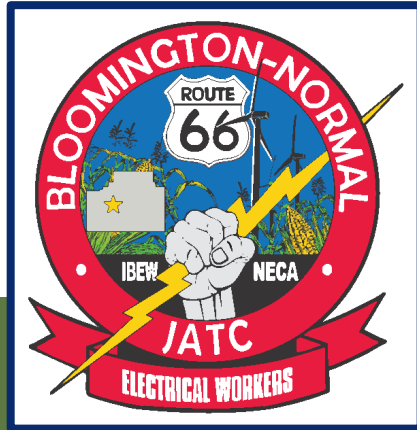
HANNA VAL

Employer: United Airlines

City: Chicago

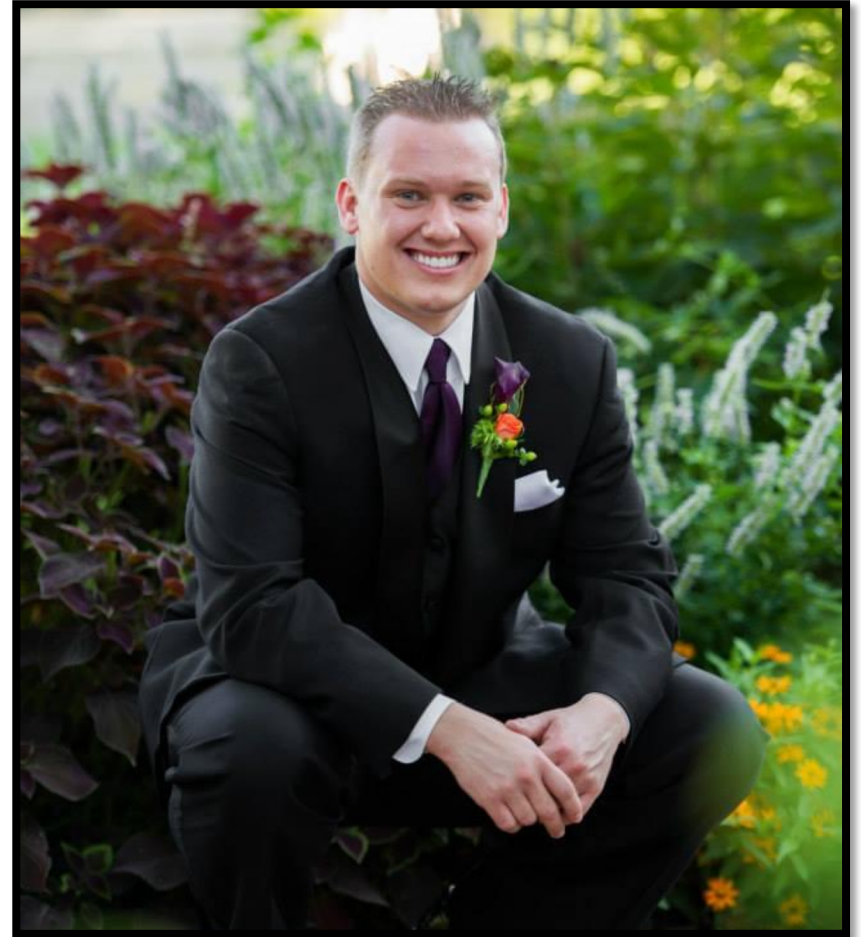
Apprenticeship: Associate Support Developer





JASON FRANCIS

Employer: Bloomington-Normal Joint Apprenticeship & Training Center
City: Bloomington
Apprenticeship: Inside Wireman Electrical Apprentice





KAILEY JARVIS

Employer: Mac Medical
City: Smithton
Apprenticeship: TIG Welder





KEVIN ROBINSON III

Employer: D&D Electric
City: Cairo
Apprenticeship: Wireman/Electrician



AON

YESENIA GONZALEZ

Employer: Aon
City: Franklin Park
Apprenticeship: Umbrella & Excess Liability Brokerage





ZACHARY THURMAN

Employer: Birkey's
City: Fisher
Apprenticeship: Diesel Service Technician



HIGH SCHOOL APPRENTICE AMBASSADORS

Apprenticeship pathways don't have
to wait until a student has graduated
High School!

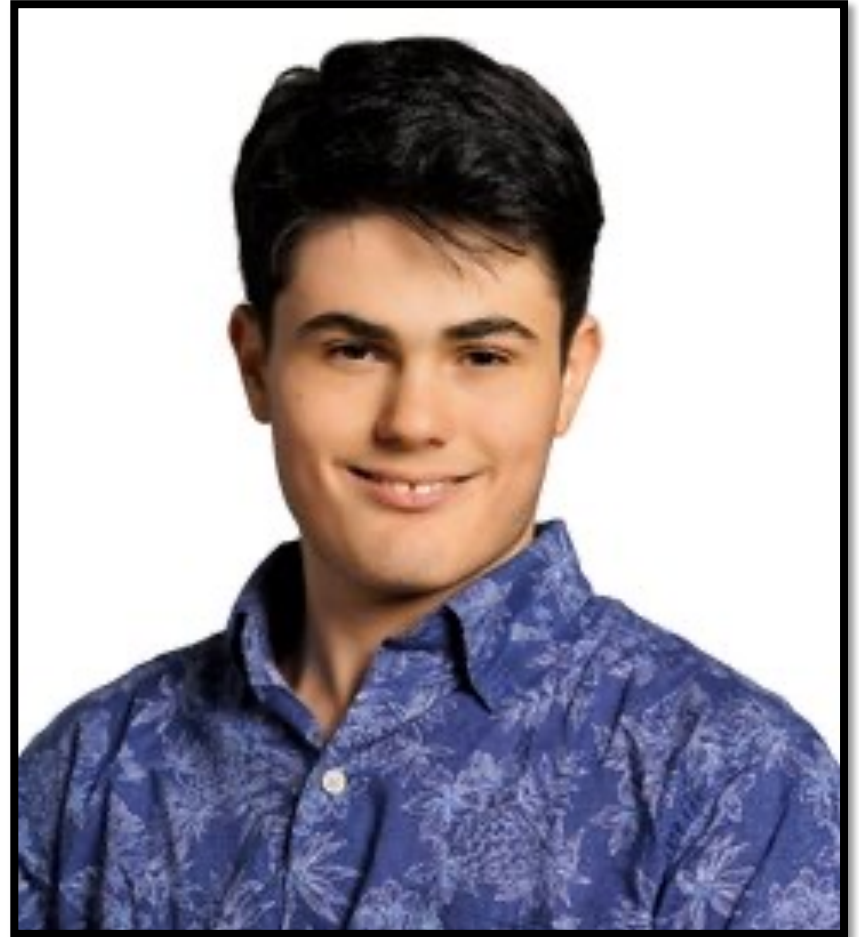




Naumann
& Associates

ARIEL LOZNER

Employer: Naumann & Associates Ltd.
City: Elk Grove Village
Apprenticeship: Legal Assistant – Real Estate





KENNETH MUNAO

Employer: Community Consolidated School District 21
City: Mount Prospect
Apprenticeship: Communications Assistant



UPCOMING EVENTS: NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK (NOV. 17-23)

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN TECH

TIME: 11/21, 10:00 AM

LINK: [Women in Tech -
Zoom Registration](#)

Leaders and Apprentices from Google, CompTIA, United Airlines, and the Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DOIT) will come together to share insights, strategies, and personal stories on advancing women in the tech field.

HIGHLIGHTING ILLINOIS APPRENTICES

TIME: 11/22, 9:00 AM

LINK: [Highlighting IL Apprentices
- Zoom Registration](#)

An apprentice panel will share their unique journeys and future aspirations! Discover how they navigated career challenges, gained skills, and what opportunities ahead. Gain insights and inspiration from those shaping their paths.

OTHER NAW EVENTS

TIME: ALL

LINK: [Apprenticeship
Illinois - NAW](#)

National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) is an annual celebration highlighting the significance of apprenticeships in the workforce and the community. The 10th anniversary will take place from November 17-23, 2024.



Apprenticeship Illinois

Contact us:

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 <https://www.apprenticeshipillinois.com/>

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