



ILLINOIS WORKS Bid Credit Program

October 2024

BCP Newsletter

Office of Illinois Works team



Pictured from left to right, Dan Martinez (Pre-Apprenticeship Grant Manager), Rebecca Bailey (Senior Bid Credit Program Manager), Favour Udeh (GPSI Intern), Ana Bedard (NIU Consultant/Professional Coach), Norman Ruano (Deputy Director), Maria Perez (Senior Apprenticeship Initiative Manager), Kathryn MacDonna (Bid Credit Program Monitor), Crystal Campos (OIW Administrative Assistant), Blake Young (Apprenticeship Initiative Manager), Carleta Alston (NIU Consultant/Professional Coach), Jeff Doolittle (NIU Consultant/Professional Coach), LaMonica Pruitt (Pre-Apprenticeship Grant Manager), Gia Suggs (NIU Consultant/Professional Coach), Rosalia Boccardi (Bid Credit Program Monitor).

Why Join the Bid Credit Program

Are you a contractor or subcontractor in the State of Illinois? Do you need access to a pool of skilled workers that are ready and able to begin working when you need them? Do you employ apprentices to comply with the Apprenticeship Initiative? Do you bid on state-funded capital construction projects now or plan to bid on them in the future? If you answered “**Yes**” to any of the above questions and have not registered for the Illinois Works Bid Credit Program, you need to [register](#) now!

The Bid Credit Program is a voluntary program that allows contractors and subcontractors doing business in the State of Illinois to earn bid credits for **employing apprentices for any project (public or private)** who have graduated from the Illinois Works Pre-apprenticeship Program. These bid credits can then be used to make your bids for future state-funded public works projects more competitive, giving you an edge in the market.

To learn more about this exciting opportunity, Bid Credit Program team provides a monthly informational webinar where you can learn the “Advantages of the Bid Credit Program”. To enroll in upcoming webinar offerings, please visit our [webpage](#) or you can watch [recordings of past webinars](#).

If you have questions regarding the Bid Credit Program, email the program staff at CEO.BidCreditProgram@illinois.gov.

Connect with Career Services and Get Top Talent for Your Business

If you are a contractor looking for qualified for talent for your company, **Illinois Works is here to support you**. The Career Services team was created to quickly connect you with Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program graduates located throughout the State of Illinois. All Illinois Works graduates have been thoroughly vetted and are ready and able to make a career in construction and the trades. They have all earned nationally recognized construction certifications including NCCER MC3 or ICCB, OSHA-10, and First Aid/CPR.

Simply complete the [Illinois Works Employer Form](#) online to submit job orders to the Career Services team. This immediately triggers a job matching process that produces a list of graduates that meets the criteria you specify. The list provided to you includes the graduates' contact information, updated resume, construction trade interest and experience, availability and earned certifications. From this list you can identify and directly contact graduates who are available for employment and sponsorship into a Department of Labor (DOL)-registered apprenticeship programs.

These Illinois Works graduates are **trained, ready, willing, and able** to begin working on your job site today. These graduates also carry with them compliance credits for the Illinois Works [Apprenticeship Initiative](#) and are eligible to earn large amounts of bid credits through the [Bid Credit Program](#) for contractors or subcontractors that hire them.

If you need additional information about [Career Services](#) or are interested in getting connected with an Illinois Works Pre-apprenticeship Program graduate,

you can email Victor Castillo at Victor.Castillo2@illinois.gov or CEO.ILWCareerServices@illinois.gov.

Upcoming Bid Credit Program Webinars

Advantages of the Bid Credit Program for Contractors

October 16, 2024 10:00AM - 11:30 a.m. [Register](#)

November 13, 2024 1:30PM - 3:00 p.m. [Register](#)

**Recordings of our past webinars can be found on the Illinois Works [Bid Credit Program Partner Guide](#).*

Upcoming Bid Credit Program Events

The Bid Credit team will be attending [Chicago Build](#) on October 22nd and 23rd to promote all Illinois Works programs. Chicago Build is the largest construction and design showcase for the Midwest. If you are at McCormick Place for the show, please keep an eye out for us and say hello.

Learn more about the Bid Credit program

[Illinois Works Bid Credit Program](#)

[Illinois Works Employer Form \(smartsheet.com\)](#)

[Contractor Registration Form](#)

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