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## **NWA EMPLOYER FORUM OFFERS APPRENTICESHIP AS A SOLUTION**

### [“Employers Growing Talent through Apprenticeships”](#)

Thursday, April 25, 2019 | Springdale, AR

**SPRINGDALE—** On Thursday, April 25, 8:30 a.m. - noon, the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services (ADWS) will host an informational forum on apprenticeship for local employers at The Jones Center, 922 E Emma Ave, Springdale, AR. This event will be held in partnership with the Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District, the Northwest Arkansas Council and the Bentonville, Fayetteville, Rogers-Lowell, Siloam Springs, and Springdale chambers of commerce. ADWS and its partners aim to increase employer awareness, interest, and commitment regarding the use of registered apprenticeship as a workforce development tool.

The forum, “Employers Growing Talent through Apprenticeships,” is an opportunity for business leaders and HR managers to learn about the value of apprenticeship, its recent expansion into new industries and occupations, and the resources available to assist throughout the implementation process. Speakers include apprenticeship experts, consultants, and officials from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) - Office of Apprenticeship, the State Office of Apprenticeship- Arkansas Career Education, and ADWS, which currently administers two DOL-funded registered apprenticeship grants. There will be a panel discussion featuring executives from Tyson Foods, Simmons Bank, UAMS- College of Nursing, the Arkansas Center for Data Sciences, and the National Apprenticeship Training Foundation. Attendees will also hear testimonials from employers currently implementing apprenticeship programs and participating apprentices. Following the panel, employers will have an opportunity to interact with apprenticeship experts in targeted Q&A sessions.

Those interested in attending are asked to register for free on Eventbrite.com. To register, go to Eventbrite.com and search “NWA Employer Forum” or use the URL provided below.

<https://nwaemployerforum.eventbrite.com/?aff=prlink>

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*Today’s strong job market and record low unemployment has made hiring a major pain point for many businesses. Employers report spending too much time and money fighting to find, recruit, and retain talent. Through apprenticeship, employers are able to grow their own talent, build a pipeline of skilled workers, and ensure new and existing employees are equipped with the hands-on experience and company-specific knowledge they need. This strategy also reduces costs related to recruitment and turnover, as the time-tested “earn and learn” model instills employee loyalty, fosters new leaders and boosts retention. While it may sound like an old solution to a new problem, apprenticeship is making a comeback, broadening its scope, and looking more like a new approach to an old solution. In today’s environment, it’s not your father’s apprenticeship. For more information visit: [www.dws.arkansas.gov/registered-apprenticeship-for-employers](http://www.dws.arkansas.gov/registered-apprenticeship-for-employers).*

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