NRWA
APPRENTICESHIP
PROGRAM

EMPLOYER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

UP TO $20,000 IN INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

Application & Award

Employers must be participating in an NRWA approved and federally registered apprenticeship program (RAP) of an NRWA State Rural Water Association (SRWA) affiliate. The employer must have a signed Employer Agreement with the RAP dated on or after July 1, 2024.

Employers may receive incentive payments up to a maximum of $20,000, subject to documented eligibility, available funding, and program requirements.

Awards are made on a first-come, first-served basis during the grant performance period, subject to the availability of funds.

Who is Eligible?

Employers must be not-for-profit employers serving communities of 10,000 or fewer during the grant period performance (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028). This includes SRWA members and non-members, and public or private not-for-profit employers.

Employers must be newly engaged in an NRWA-approved, federally Registered Apprenticeship Program through an NRWA State Rural Water Association affiliate and have a signed participating employer agreement dated on or after July 1, 2024.

Application Process

Employers must complete the initial application through the NRWA Apprenticeship Tracking System (ATS) database to be considered for the one-time new employer incentive payment. A link to the ATS and the employer's user account will be provided by the SRWA Apprenticeship Coordinator.

Employers must submit apprentice completion incentive payment requests, along with supporting documentation, through their employer profile in the ATS.

Employer Incentive Program Highlights

Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis and is subject to the availability of grant funds.

Eligible employers with at least one registered apprentice actively participating in the RAP may receive a one-time initial incentive payment of $10,000.

Employers may receive an additional $5,000 Apprentice Milestone Incentive for up to two qualifying apprentices may be claimed for a maximum additional incentive of $10,000 for apprentices who completes the requirements below:

- 144 hours of Related Technical Instruction (RTI)
- 2,000 hours of On-the-Job Training (OJT)

To qualify, an authorized employer representative must complete Ethics for Water Professionals (APPR 007). SRWA Apprenticeship Coordinator will enroll the employer representative in WaterPro Academy to complete the course.

Approved payments are issued by check and mailed directly to the employer.

Payments are processed monthly during the grant performance period, subject to available funding.

The ABA2 Employer Incentive Program is supported by the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration as part of an award totaling $7,631,873 with 100% funded through federal sources.