



Commissioner Brad Avakian
Bureau of Labor and Industries

Press Release

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State Apprenticeship Council Launches New Information Portal

PORTLAND, OR- The Oregon State Apprenticeship and Training Council (OSATC), chaired by Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) Commissioner Brad Avakian, has officially launched a new, info-packed website to expand outreach to potential apprentices in Oregon. Avakian's top priority as chief of BOLI is to strengthen workforce development and improve access to job opportunities for all Oregonians. The new website, a product of collaboration between various business, labor, government agency and community partners, is <http://oregonapprenticeship.com>.

"This website is going to be a great tool for recruiting the next generation of skilled workers in Oregon," Avakian said. "Reaching out electronically is a key way to renew interest in Oregon apprenticeship, especially among women and people of color who are not traditionally directed toward these career pathways that can lead to high-skill, living-wage jobs."

"Creating the jobs that our apprentices will use to develop their skills and earn while they learn is the critical priority right now," said Avakian. Although a slow economy limits the number of new apprentices currently being registered in approved programs, Avakian emphasized the importance of looking at job training over the longer term. "Raising awareness about apprenticeship opportunities now will prime the pump and ensure that as jobs become available, Oregonians are ready to start or in the process of getting the necessary skills. When employment in the trades rebounds, we want to make sure that all Oregonians are able to enjoy a meaningful career opportunity."

BOLI's Apprenticeship and Training Division (ATD) staffs OSATC and helped to create the website through the OSATC's Affirmative Action Task Force. ATD partners with business and labor organizations to build a skilled workforce in Oregon through hands-on job training and earn-while-you-learn paid experience.

For more information about BOLI, visit our website [here](#).

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