

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has long been a leader in workforce programming, including registered apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships, and worker training grants, and is home to the nation’s first registered apprenticeship, worker’s compensation, and unemployment insurance programs; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is experiencing one of the strongest economic periods in state history, evidenced by the state’s historically low unemployment and a record-high number of Wisconsinites employed; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin also achieved record-breaking participation in youth and registered apprenticeships, with more than 16,000 active registered apprentices and over 9,900 high school juniors and seniors participating in youth apprenticeships during the 2023-2024 school year; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin’s workforce and economic successes are driven by the spirit of collaboration between educational institutions, state and local workforce agencies, labor unions, and diverse employers statewide; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) operates job centers at 37 locations—as well as Wisconsin’s online labor exchange, Job Center of Wisconsin—staffed with talented employment and training specialists who are knowledgeable on local employer demands and ready to assist individuals with securing employment, transitioning into new employment, and advancing their careers; and

WHEREAS; comprehensive job services play an essential role in increasing workforce participation through innovative programs that support all Wisconsin workers, including veterans, workers with disabilities, young workers, and justice-involved individuals, to ensure a robust pipeline of talent for in-demand industries; and

WHEREAS; the state must address the chronic workforce challenges that have plagued the state for a decade across a variety of sectors, but making sure Wisconsin’s workforce is prepared to meet the needs of a 21st-century economy is one of the top priorities of the state; and

WHEREAS; 2024 was declared the Year of the Worker, and throughout the year, the state has committed to continuing its efforts to bolster the state’s workforce, reduce barriers to workers, and make targeted investments in key sectors of the workforce, including education, healthcare, and more; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to remaining responsive, inclusive, and adaptable and to advancing policies that call for fair and equitable workforce practices, promote family-sustaining employment, and advocate for the protection and economic advancement of all Wisconsin’s workers, employers, and job seekers to build an economy that works for all Wisconsinites;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim September 2024 as

## **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 19th day of August 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State