

2025-2026 Instructional Services Project Code: 271 CESA 4 Youth Apprenticeship Consortium

Youth Apprenticeship (YA) integrates school-based and work-based learning to instruct students in employability and occupational skills defined by Wisconsin industries. Local programs provide training based on state-wide youth apprenticeship curriculum guidelines, endorsed by business and industry. Students are instructed by qualified teachers and skilled worksite mentors. Students are simultaneously enrolled in academic classes to meet high school graduation requirements, in a youth apprenticeship related instruction class, and are employed by a participating employer under the supervision of a skilled mentor.

Program Framework

Key elements of the youth apprenticeship program are:

- Industry-developed skill standards
- Exposure to multiple aspects of the industry
- Skilled mentors assigned to train the students
- Paid on-the-job work experience
- Related classroom instruction concurrent with work-based learning
- Curriculum guidelines for all programs
- Performance evaluation of demonstrated competencies
- State-issued skill certificate

IMPORTANT: To participate in this Consortium, you MUST also complete a district affiliation form (as shared with your local Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator) and return the signed agreement to CESA 4.

Level 1 Basic Service

CESA 4 will serve as the Regional Coordination site for the CESA 4 Youth Apprenticeship Consortium. The Regional Coordinator, employed by CESA 4, will:

- Serve as the program liaison with the Youth Apprenticeship School-Based Coordinators to develop, design, implement, and administer this program
- Meet with Youth Apprenticeship School-Based Coordinators on a regular basis to review progress of program growth and address program concerns
- Arrange for mentor training and assist in matching students with mentors
- Prepare and submit required forms and reports to DWD
- Attend statewide coordinator planning, informational meetings, and training sessions
- Arrange for youth apprenticeship related instruction including negotiating costs, when needed
- Prepare grant proposals to secure funding
- Secure and coordinate additional program funding resources
- Oversee program grants and funds to ensure timely expenditures
- Assess community businesses for interest in new program areas
- Plan and develop new youth apprenticeship program areas
- Implement and direct local steering committee efforts to promote program

Grant funds will be used to support Regional Coordination at the CESA level. Remaining funds will be allocated to local districts based on the annual per-student award from the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Youth Apprenticeship Office.