

REFERENCE TITLE: apprenticeships; registration; certificate

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2026

# HB 2591

Introduced by  
Representative Wilmeth

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 41-1951 AND 41-1955, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO APPRENTICESHIPS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 41-1951, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 41-1951. Definitions

5 In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 1. "Agency" includes one or more of the state agencies consolidated  
7 into the department of economic security by this chapter.

8 2. "APPRENTICESHIP" MEANS A FORMAL, STRUCTURED, EARN-AND-LEARN  
9 TRAINING MODEL THAT COMBINES PAID, SUPERVISED ON-THE-JOB LEARNING WITH  
10 RELATED TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION TO DEVELOP COMPETENT AND SKILLED WORKERS IN  
11 AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED OCCUPATION.

12 ~~7.~~ 3. "Community work and training" means work, training or job  
13 development ~~which~~ THAT will be provided through a plan jointly entered  
14 into by the department and an agency, department, board or commission of  
15 ~~the~~ THIS state or ~~THE~~ federal government, ~~OR~~ A county, city, political  
16 subdivision or private agency. Such work, training or job development  
17 will take place in and about public or private works or improvements and  
18 will ~~utilize~~ USE labor and services required to be performed where  
19 feasible by those eligible for this program.

20 ~~2.~~ 4. "Comprehensive plan" means an evaluation of client needs and  
21 the availability of services to meet these needs within ~~the~~ THIS state.

22 ~~3.~~ 5. "Council" means the economic security council.

23 ~~4.~~ 6. "Department" means the department of economic security.

24 ~~5.~~ 7. "Director" means the director of the department of economic  
25 security.

26 ~~6.~~ 8. "State plan" means any of the several state plans ~~which~~ THAT  
27 establish the federal-state contractual relationships necessary for  
28 federal funding.

29 Sec. 2. Section 41-1955, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
30 read:

31 41-1955. Duty of department concerning employment  
32 stabilization, ex-offender rehabilitation, income  
33 maintenance and manpower development; research  
34 studies; apprenticeships

35 The department, with the advice and aid of its advisory councils,  
36 shall:

37 1. Take appropriate steps to reduce and prevent unemployment and  
38 dependency, ~~and~~ and to assist in alleviating the economic and social impact  
39 of unemployment and dependency on the person and ~~his~~ THE PERSON'S family.

40 2. Encourage and assist in ~~the adoption of~~ ADOPTING practical  
41 methods of manpower services, occupational training, vocational counseling  
42 and guidance, vocational rehabilitation and retraining, supportive  
43 services and other such services the director deems appropriate.

44 3. Research, recommend, advise and assist in ~~the establishment of~~  
45 ESTABLISHING community or area facilities, public and private, or both, to

1 provide an integration of direct services and programs for ~~the development~~  
2 ~~of the~~ DEVELOPING THIS state's manpower and ~~the reduction of~~ REDUCING  
3 dependency.

4 4. Promote the effective ~~utilization~~ USE of unemployed and  
5 ~~under-utilized~~ UNDER-USED workers.

6 5. Aid in ~~the rehabilitation of~~ REHABILITATING employable  
7 ex-offenders, in cooperation with the department of corrections. An  
8 ex-offender, by accepting the assistance provided for by this article,  
9 shall not be disqualified from receiving further assistance from any other  
10 state agency to which ~~he~~ THE EX-OFFENDER is legally entitled.

11 6. Be the state registration agency for apprenticeship functions  
12 prescribed by the federal government.

13 7. Carry out and publish the results of research studies for the  
14 purpose of this chapter.

15 B. APPRENTICESHIPS THAT ARE REGISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

16 1. INCLUDE WRITTEN APPRENTICESHIP AGREEMENTS.

17 2. DEFINE WORK PROCESSES AND TRAINING PLANS.

18 3. PROVIDE PROGRESSIVE WAGE INCREASES.

19 4. PROVIDE PROPER SUPERVISION AND SAFETY TRAINING.

20 5. ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION.