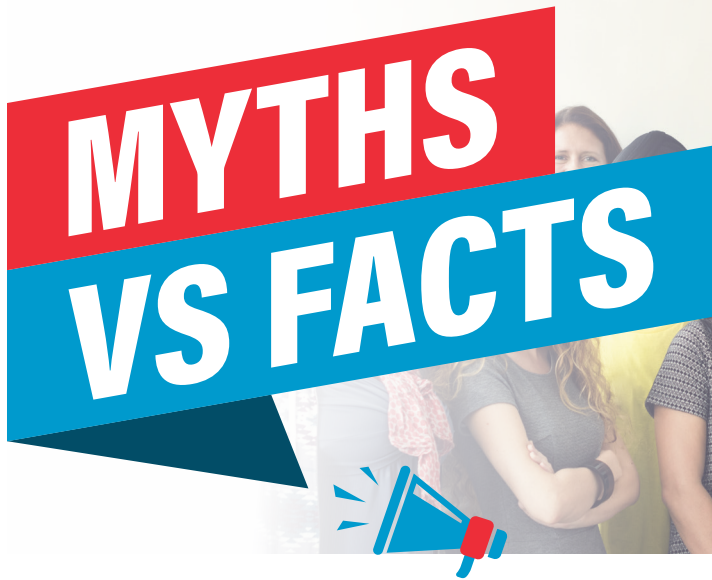


# BUSTING THE MYTHS AROUND APPRENTICESHIPS



## APPRENTICESHIPS DATE BACK TO THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BCE,<sup>1</sup> YET ARE OFTEN OVERLOOKED AS A PATH TO STARTING A GREAT CAREER.

Let's examine some common misconceptions around apprenticeship to unveil its benefits:

**MYTH:** Apprenticeships are limited to construction and manufacturing industries.

**FACT:** With apprenticeship, you have a wealth of options. **Apprenticeship programs are available in multiple industries** including, but not limited to: Information Technology (IT), Healthcare, Cybersecurity, Energy, Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering, Financial Services, Digital Marketing, and Education.

**MYTH:** Apprenticeships are low quality alternatives to college.

**FACT:** Apprenticeships provide related instruction, on-the-job training, and mentorship under the instruction of an experienced professional. Apprentices will earn a portable, nationally recognized credential within their industry while building a network.<sup>2</sup> **This is an education that a university cannot offer.**

**MYTH:** Apprenticeships will not help me achieve my financial goals.

**FACT:** By definition, an **apprenticeship is a paid job.**<sup>3</sup> From Day 1, an apprentice earns a wage, receives the same benefits as other employees, and has the additional opportunity to learn without paying for tuition.

**MYTH:** Employers do not value apprenticeships.

**FACT:** Apprenticeship is the most employer-driven form of workforce development.<sup>4</sup> Recruiting an apprentice is cost-effective for businesses and can also result in **increased employee retention.**

**MYTH:** Apprenticeships do not provide job security

**FACT:** 94% of apprentices who complete an apprenticeship program **retain employment with an average annual salary of \$70,000.**<sup>5</sup> Employability is not just a matter of finding employment or gaining a set of technical skills. It is the ability to gain skills that make you adaptable to the needs of potential employers and customers.<sup>6</sup>

**MYTH:** Apprenticeship is only an option when you are young.

**FACT:** Apprenticeships are for **anyone who wants to obtain paid, relevant workplace experience** while acquiring the skills and credentials valued by employers.

**MYTH:** The earning potential of an apprentice is low.

**FACT:** The apprenticeship model provides a viable career pathway to high-paying jobs. A recent study found that participants had significantly **higher employment rates and earnings compared to those who did not complete an apprenticeship.**<sup>7</sup>

**To learn if apprenticeship may be right for you, contact (503) 478-7362 or visit [Worksystems.org](https://www.worksystems.org).**

*The Tech Quest Apprenticeship program is an equal opportunity program. This project is supported by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$11,999,771.00 and \$4,200,000 from non-governmental sources. TQAClark.com.*

<sup>1</sup> Britannica, Apprenticeship, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/apprenticeship>

<sup>2</sup> Official website of the United States government, Career Seeker Fact Sheet, [https://www.apprenticeship.gov/sites/default/files/Career\\_Seeker\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](https://www.apprenticeship.gov/sites/default/files/Career_Seeker_Fact_Sheet.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Official website of the United States government, <https://www.apprenticeship.gov/career-seekers>

<sup>4</sup> U.S Department of Labor, Apprenticeship Toolkit, <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/toolkit/toolkitfaq.htm>

<sup>5</sup> Official website of the United States government, Career Seeker Fact Sheet, [https://www.apprenticeship.gov/sites/default/files/Career\\_Seeker\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](https://www.apprenticeship.gov/sites/default/files/Career_Seeker_Fact_Sheet.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Forbes, 13 Reasons To Consider An Apprenticeship After Graduating, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbescoachescouncil/2020/08/17/13-smart-reasons-to-consider-an-apprenticeship-after-graduating/?sh=3987301f5f9b>

<sup>7</sup> U.S Department of Labor Blog, Apprenticeships Are Opportunities, <https://blog.dol.gov/2019/11/15/apprenticeships-are-opportunities>

