

Department of Workforce Development
Employment and Training Division
Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards
201 E. Washington Ave
P.O. Box 7972
Madison, WI 53707-7972
Telephone: (608) 733-3930
Email: apprenticeship@dwd.wisconsin.gov



Department of Workforce Development

Tony Evers, Governor
Amy Pechacek, Secretary
Michele Carter, Division Administrator

September 25, 2025

Wisconsin Apprenticeship Advisory Council Access and Outreach Subcommittee

Thursday, October 02, 2025
10:00am – 12:00 PM

Attend Virtually: [Join the meeting now](#)

Teams Meeting ID: 210 535 333 191 9 | Passcode: b9g5yq6u
+1 608-571-2209 United States, Madison
Phone conference ID: 335 772 27#

Agenda

1. Call meeting to order
2. Record attendees
3. Mental health training for apprentices and provide recommendations for Council – *Continued discussion from prior meeting.*
4. Adjourn



07/15/2025
10am-12noon

In-Person and/or Virtual: Virtual

[illegible]

A&O Subcommittee
Nick Abbott

1. Call Meeting to Order

- Note Who: Liz Pusch
- Note Time: 10:04 am

2. Introductions and Record Attendees (in table above)

3. Topic - Mental health training for apprentices and provide recommendations for council

The committee discussed the mental health challenges faced by individuals in the construction industry, including apprentices. They highlighted the value of suicide prevention training, particularly in recognizing when someone may be struggling and guiding them to appropriate support resources.

The discussion then shifted to exploring potential pathways for implementing a requirement for such training. Liz Pusch provided an overview of the components that a formal recommendation would need to include.

Next steps:

Subcommittee members and guests would research available training programs and determine a minimum number of required training hours before presenting the proposal to the full council.

BAS will reach out to WTCS to gather details on any current course offerings, including costs of participation.

BAS will schedule a follow-up meeting for the subcommittee to share additional information.

The subcommittee will provide an update on this meeting to the full Council at the August meeting.

4. Adjourn

- Note Time: 10:46am
- Motion to Adjourn made by: Henry Hurt
- Motion Seconded by: Dan Webster

Information from WTCS on available Mental Health training

- VitalCog - this is a 2-hour training offered by many public and private institutions throughout the US. Some organizations also offer an 8-hour Train the Trainer course to prepare folks to offer the 2-hour training to others. No colleges reported to us that they are providers of VitalCog.
- QPR (Question/Persuade/Refer) - there are a variety of levels and focuses which can be targeted to students, managers, etc.; additionally, there are [online](#) opportunities as well as in-person options. FVTC indicated they train staff and students in QPR, so it is assumed they have one or more qualified instructors. Moraine Park Technical College has also offered this.
- [MHFA](#) (Mental Health First Aid) - this is usually a 6-8 hour training also offered by a number of entities and appears to have both online and in-person options. Within WTCS, we are aware that both Nicolet College and FVTC provide this training. Additionally, DOA/WebMD have offered this for state employees.
- [The Jed Foundation](#) provides mental health education and training. I'm not sure about modality or length. Moraine Park Technical College mentioned they have been involved with this in the past.
- DOA offers a number of mental health offerings which are housed on Cornerstone and would be available to DWD staff to review.