

President Trump Signs Executive Order to Modernize Apprenticeships and Workforce Development Programs

On Wednesday, President Trump signed an [executive order](#) which directs the Department of Labor, Department of Commerce, and Department of Education to look at solutions to expand apprenticeships and modernize workforce development programs.

Specifically, President Trump's executive order requires federal agencies to:

- Review all federal workforce development programs to identify opportunities to modernize current requirements, invest in upskilling workers, develop educational pathways beyond a four-year degree, and reduce burdensome reporting requirements;
- Draft a plan to reach one million active apprentices by expanding access for in-demand occupations, providing consistent support, and improving connections between the education system and apprenticeships; and
- Increase transparency and accountability in workforce development programs by collecting relevant data.

The executive order is an important win for NDA in its efforts to advocate for improved federal workforce development policies that meet the needs of demolition contractors. In January, [NDA sent a letter to President Trump](#) urging him to address outdated apprenticeship and workforce development policies.

NDA is also working with Congress to pass legislation that will reform workforce development laws for the first time in over a decade.

NDA Urges Congress to Extend Small Business Tax Cuts

Today, NDA sent a [letter](#) to the chairmen of the House Ways and Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee urging them to draft legislation that will provide tax relief for demolition contractors and extend expiring tax incentives from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

Earlier this month, Republicans in Congress passed a budget resolution for fiscal year 2025 that unlocks the budget reconciliation process. The budget reconciliation process will allow Republicans in Congress to pass legislation without any Democratic votes in either chamber and will be used to extend tax incentives from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Most of these provisions are set to expire at the end of this year.

During the week of May 12-15, the House Ways and Means Committee is tentatively scheduled to introduce and approve new legislation to address the expiring tax cuts and reform other areas of the tax code. This will be the first legislative step in a process that is expected to take several weeks. This legislation will eventually have to be approved by the full House of Representatives as well as the Senate.

NDA will continue to advocate for the extension of critical small business tax incentives with both House and Senate members.