



At-a-Glance: State Apprenticeship Agency (SAA) Re-application for Recognition Apprenticeship Final Rule, 29 CFR Part 29

What are the time frames associated with a SAA's reapplication for recognition?

Section 29.13(c) of the revised regulations requires SAAs to reapply for recognition from the Department within two years of the effective date of the revised regulations, with extensions as needed. The duration of recognition will be five years thereafter for continued recognition. Under revised § 29.13(d) OA will review recognized states.

How was this issue addressed in the original regulations?

The original regulations conferred open-ended recognition on SAAs for Federal purposes and did not clearly specify that a SAA must continue to meet regulatory requirements for continued recognition.

What is the reason for the change?

The revised regulations clarify that the Department has the responsibility to ensure that a recognized state's apprenticeship laws, regulations, policies and procedures conform to Federal regulations and legislation. The five-year cycle, in particular, benefits SAAs, registered apprentices, the National Apprenticeship System and program sponsors, by ensuring consistency across the system while providing an efficient way to ensure that SAAs remain in conformity with Federal requirements.

To minimize any burdens imposed by the recognition/re-recognition process, OA will provide technical assistance to all SAAs seeking recognition/re-recognition to help them in the application process, and will continue to provide technical assistance throughout the five-year term for recognition. For further information, please refer to pages 64420-64421 of the Federal Register Notice for the final rule (73 FR 64402, Oct. 29, 2008).

What are the next steps?

The revised regulations take effect on December 29, 2008, and provide SAAs with two years, with extensions as needed, from the effective date to implement necessary changes. OA will coordinate with SAAs to develop and issue guidance regarding materials necessary for recognition and continued recognition. This information will be posted on the regulations page of the OA web site, www.doleta.gov/oa/regulations.cfm.

For more information about the revised regulations, please contact OA at (202) 693-2796 or Regs.Apprenticeship@dol.gov.