

Restaurant Youth Registered Apprenticeship (RYRA)



Building Team Leaders From Within



The RYRA program is designed for young people committed to careers in the restaurant industry who are looking to build their skill set while earning money. Through RYRA, restaurant owners can onboard Apprentices for on-the-job training in specific culinary or management competencies. Apprentices also receive additional classroom instruction, provided by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation or a community partner. The program helps operators develop talent, increase retention, and build leadership from within.

Who is eligible?

- Anyone 17 to 24 years old is eligible for the **Line Cook, Kitchen Manager, and Restaurant Manager** apprenticeships. (High school diploma or equivalent required within the first year.)
- Current employees ages 17-24 who show potential!



***The nationwide retention rate
for Apprentices is 80 percent!***



What's expected of restaurants hiring Apprentices?

- Commit to employing Apprentices for as long as it takes for them to gain the required competencies. For Line Cook Apprentices, that should be about one year full-time. For Management Apprentices, that should be about two years full-time. Part-time options are also possible.
- Provide at least one wage increase during the Apprentice's tenure.
- Provide on-the-job training in culinary skills, safety and sanitation, and management and leadership. Customized technical assistance is offered to help you and your staff prepare to support Apprentices.
- A training course component is provided by either the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation or a community partner.

What are the advantages of participating?

- Accessing a new pool of qualified employee candidates
- Increasing productivity
- Increasing retention
- Building a diverse, engaged, competent staff
- Many Apprentice candidates have already completed ProStart or in-classroom training - and come equipped with the technical skills to make them successful

How Do I Participate?

Reach out to programs manager Stacy Griest (sgriest@corestaurant.org) at the Colorado Restaurant Foundation to get started.



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