# RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2026 SEP 16 PM 1:09

**Post Travel Filing Instructions:** Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building.**This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

**Certification:***In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):
Jobs for the Future

Travel Dates:
08/26/2025 to 08/28/2025

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

## Expenses

| Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meals Expenses | Other Expenses (Amount & Description) |
|---|---|---|---|
| $397.00 | $318.00 | $182.00 | $0.00 |

*I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:*

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

*Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.*

9/16/26
Date

Jackson Hern
Printed Name of Traveler

Signature of Traveler

**TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER**

*I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.*

Bill Cassidy, M.D.
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

9/16/26
Date

# ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

**Note:** Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

## Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

Yes No

| Expense Change | Revised Amount | Explanation |
|---|---|---|
| There were no changes to pre-approved travel expenses. | | |

## Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

Yes No

Explanation: There were no changes to the pre-approved itinerary.

## Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

Yes No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

Jobs for the Future

Monday July 7, 2025

Dear Jackson,

On behalf of Jobs for the Future, I'm writing to invite you to an upcoming Congressional Staff Network (CSN) site visit to northeast Ohio on Tuesday, August 26 – Thursday, August 28.

This site visit will highlight coordinated, cross-sector efforts to rebuild and modernize the region's manufacturing economy. Sessions will explore a range of initiatives, from activities to inform students and their families about skilled trades careers, to industry-aligned, short-term credentialing pathways that ladder up to bachelor's degrees and beyond.

Leaders from the Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network (MAGNET), part of the national network of U.S. Department of Commerce Manufacturing Extension Partnerships, will share how they collaborate with community colleges, regional economic development and workforce agencies, and employers to establish public-private partnerships that support talent pipeline development. Specifically, staff will learn about MAGNET's holistic approach to helping veterans and people with criminal reocrds enter high-wage manufacturing jobs, and joint programs with local school districts and youth-serving organizations to inspire the next generation of advanced manufacturing talent.

Ohio also offers a unique opportunity to explore how state policies investments – e.g., the Individual Microcredential Assistance Program, Tech Cred, College Credit Plus, and the Ohio Work Ready Grant – drive improved postsecondary attainment rates and student labor market outcomes.

***Please confirm your participation by Thursday, July 17.*** Once you confirm your plans to participate, our team will share final information for the trip, including the agenda and the necessary ethics documentation.

Best,

**Taylor Maag**
Director, Workforce Policy
Jobs for the Future

# RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

**Pre-Travel Filing Instructions:** Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
Jackson Hern

Employing Office/Committee:
YOUNG, TODD

Private Sponsor(s):
Jobs for the Future

Destination(s):
Cleveland, Ohio

Travel Dates:
08/26/2025 to 08/28/2025
**NOTE:** If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

## Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

As a congressional staffer working on education and workforce development policy, this trip will provide me a firsthand insight into northeastern Ohio's strategies for bolstering their manufacturing sector. Learning how industry partners, community and technical colleges, and workforce agencies can collaborate to provide meaningful career pathways in understaffed industries will help inform policymaking at the federal level.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

*I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.*

7/28/25
Date

Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I Senator Bill Cassidy (Print Senator's/Officer's Name) hereby authorize Jackson D. Hern (Print Traveler's Name)

*an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.*

*I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.*

☐ (signify "yes" by checking box)

7/28/2025
Date

Bill Cassidy, M.D.
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

# Jobs for the Future: JFF Congressional Staff Network Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

## Jackson Hern

Title:
None

Employing Office/Committee:
HEALTH, EDUC, LAB, AND PENSIONS - REP

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):
Cleveland, Ohio

## Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As a congressional staffer working on education and workforce development policy, this trip will provide me a firsthand insight into northeastern Ohio's strategies for bolstering their manufacturing sector. Learning how industry partners, community and technical colleges, and workforce agencies can collaborate to provide meaningful career pathways in understaffed industries will help inform policymaking at the federal level.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

## Organization Information

**Organization Name**
Jobs for the Future

**Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?**
Yes No

**§501(c)(3) Organization Type**
Private Foundation

**Address**
50 Milk Street, 17th Floor

**Address 2** (Optional)
None

**City, State Zip**
Boston, Massachusetts 02109 United States

**Phone Number**
2145143431

**Organization URL**
jff.org

## History of Congressional Travel

Jobs for the Future (JFF) has sponsored site visits and other educational activities for Congressional staff for over 16 years. Examples of this work include 3-4 DC-based forums per year, and approximately two site visits per year where senior Congressional staff see high-quality workforce programs first-hand and learn from experts, practitioners, and program participants about the impact of federal policy on the ground. Previous site visits have included travel to: Bridgeport, CT; Cincinnati, OH; Madison, WI; Philadelphia, PA; Detroit, MI; Wichita, KS; Nashville, TN; Seattle, WA; Eastern KY; Fredericksburg, VA; Memphis, TN; Denver, CO; Shenandoah Valley, VA; Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Wilmington, DE; Austin, TX; Asheville, NC; and Las Vegas, NV; as well as virtual "visits" to San Diego, CA and Houston, TX. The purpose of these trips, and of the Congressional Staff Network, is to provide in-depth learning opportunities for staff on workforce, education, and economic security issues.

## Educational Activities

JFF works with partners around the country to design and drive the adoption of education and career pathways that lead to upward economic mobility, especially for individuals who face systemic barriers to advancement. JFF improves pathways from high school to postsecondary education to family-supporting careers through relevant technical assistance, research, policy development, communications, and by hosting events, including national conferences.

## Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

## Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.

I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.

I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

None Entered

## Signature Page

The signature page is below.

## Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

The Congressional Staff Network (CSN) convenes a bipartisan, bicameral group of senior Congressional staff to focus on policy issues at the core of economic mobility: K-12 education, postsecondary education, workforce development, and human services. The purpose of this trip is to educate staff about evidence-based approaches to education and workforce development that prepare learners and workers for high-wage, high-demand careers, while supporting regional economic growth and resilience. Staff will see program models designed to promote economic advancement, align training with labor market demand, and rebuild a modern industrial economy in northeast Ohio. They will engage with stakeholders involved in developing and implementing these efforts, including public workforce and education system leaders, regional employers, and community-based organizations.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

JFF's mission is to drive transformation of the U.S. education and workforce systems to achieve economic advancement for all. Specifically, JFF aims to eliminate barriers to economic mobility by making our education and workforce systems more effective, better connected, and easier to navigate. JFF's mission connects directly to the purpose of this trip: highlighting innovative, evidence-based programs and policies that drive upward mobility.

## Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

Yes No

## Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
2. Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
3. Joyce Foundation

## With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

## Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip

The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

## Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.

Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

## Invitees

Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

## Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
08/26/2025 @ 11:30 AM

Trip End Date/Time:
08/28/2025 @ 02:55 PM

## Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

Yes No

## Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

## Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $397.00 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

| Transportation Type | Class | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| Airfare | Coach | $262.00 |

**Note**
Round trip economy class airfare from Washington, DC (Reagan National Airport) to Cleveland, OH (Cleveland Hopkins International Airport).

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ground Transportation | Coach | $135.00 |

**Note**
On the ground trasnportation in Ohio via chartered coach bus.

## Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $318.00 )

| Check-In | Check-Out | Facility | City | State | Country | Nights | Cost/Night | Cost Exceed Per Diem |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08/26/2025 | 08/28/2025 | Kimpton Schofield Hotel | Cleveland | Ohio | United States | 2 | $159.00 | No |

## Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $182.00 )

| Date | Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner | Incidentals | Total | City | State | Country | Cost Exceeds Per Diem |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08/26/2025 | $0.00 | $22.00 | $38.00 | $0.00 | **$60.00** | Cleveland | Ohio | United States | No |
| 08/27/2025 | $19.00 | $23.00 | $33.00 | $5.00 | **$80.00** | Cleveland | Ohio | United States | No |
| 08/28/2025 | $17.00 | $20.00 | $0.00 | $5.00 | **$42.00** | Cleveland | Ohio | United States | No |

## Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $0.00 )

| Expense Type | Amount | Notes |
|---|---|---|

There are no miscellaneous expenses.

## Additional Attachments

| Document Name |
|---|

There are no additional attachments.

## PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

## SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: JFF Congressional Staff Network Site Visit to Northeast Ohic

Travel Date(s): 8/26/2025 - 8/28/2025

Travel Destination(s): Cleveland, OH and Elyria, OH

Sponsor: Jobs for the Future

Maria Flynn
*(printed name of sponsor representative)*

President & CEO
*(title)*

Maria K. Flynn
*(signature of sponsor representative)*

7/17/2025
*(date)*

# Grantmaking Organization Certification Form

**Instructions:** If a sponsor receives funds from a grantmaking organization, the sponsor must disclose this on the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and the grantmaking organization must complete the *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form.* The completed *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form* must be submitted to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics by the trip sponsor at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date.

Grantmaking Organization: Gates Foundation

Private Sponsor: Jobs for the Future

Trip Name: JFF Congressional Staff Network Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Travel Date(s): 8/26/2025 - 8/28/2025

Destination(s): Cleveland, OH and Elyria, OH

In compliance with the *Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel*, I certify the following:

- ☑ The grantmaking organization is a § 501(c)(3) organization.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization is not a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or foreign agent, nor an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist or foreign agent.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization provides funds under an established grant program, or in a manner that is otherwise consistent with the mission and practices of the organization.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization is not involved, directly or indirectly, in organizing and conducting the trip. This includes selecting participants for a trip.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization does not directly pay or reimburse travel expenses for any Senate Member, officer, or employee.

Kathryn Young — *(Printed name of grantmaking organization representative)*

Senior Program Officer — *(Title)*

Kathryn Young Digitally signed by Kathryn Young Date: 2025.07.23 09:47:52 -04'00' — *(Signature of grantmaking organization representative)*

07/23/2025 — *(Date)*

Docusign Envelope ID: 6AA0EEEA-C6C8-4334-ABBB-D7BD714E3333

# Grantmaking Organization Certification Form

**Instructions:** If a sponsor receives funds from a grantmaking organization, the sponsor must disclose this on the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and the grantmaking organization must complete the *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form.* The completed *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form* must be submitted to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics by the trip sponsor at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date.

Grantmaking Organization: Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

Private Sponsor: Jobs for the Future

Trip Name: JFF Congressional Staff Network Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Travel Date(s): 8/26/2025 - 8/28/2025

Destination(s): Cleveland, OH and Elyria, OH

In compliance with the *Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel*, I certify the following:

[X] The grantmaking organization is a § 501(c)(3) organization.

[X] The grantmaking organization is not a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or foreign agent, nor an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist or foreign agent.

[X] The grantmaking organization provides funds under an established grant program, or in a manner that is otherwise consistent with the mission and practices of the organization.

[X] The grantmaking organization is not involved, directly or indirectly, in organizing and conducting the trip. This includes selecting participants for a trip.

[X] The grantmaking organization does not directly pay or reimburse travel expenses for any Senate Member, officer, or employee.

Sonia Moldovan — *(Printed name of grantmaking organization representative)*

VP, Strategy & Programs — *(Title)*

DocuSigned by: Sonia Moldovan 9E0AE047055E4A4... — *(Signature of grantmaking organization representative)*

7/17/2025 — *(Date)*

# Grantmaking Organization Certification Form

**Instructions:** If a sponsor receives funds from a grantmaking organization, the sponsor must disclose this on the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and the grantmaking organization must complete the *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form.* The completed *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form* must be submitted to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics by the trip sponsor at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date.

Grantmaking Organization: Joyce Foundation

Private Sponsor: Jobs for the Future

Trip Name: JFF Congressional Staff Network Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Travel Date(s): 8/26/2025 - 8/28/2025

Destination(s): Cleveland, OH and Elyria, OH

In compliance with the *Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel*, I certify the following:

- ☑ The grantmaking organization is a § 501(c)(3) organization.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization is not a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or foreign agent, nor an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist or foreign agent.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization provides funds under an established grant program, or in a manner that is otherwise consistent with the mission and practices of the organization.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization is not involved, directly or indirectly, in organizing and conducting the trip. This includes selecting participants for a trip.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization does not directly pay or reimburse travel expenses for any Senate Member, officer, or employee.

Kathleen Clarke — *(Printed name of grantmaking organization representative)*

Chief Operating Officer — *(Title)*

Kathleen M Clarke — *(Signature of grantmaking organization representative)*

Digitally signed by Kathleen M Clarke
DN: cn=Kathleen M Clarke geeks@Kathleen M Clarke here,US United States,ou=US United States,ou=The Joyce Foundation,email=kclarke@joycefdn.org
Reason: I am approving this document
Location:
Date: 2025-06-27 16:57:05 00

06/27/2025 — *(Date)*

# SENATE STAFF INVITEES

## Congressional Staff Network Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday, August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

**Amanda Beaumont**
Professional Staff Member
Senate Appropriations Committee

**Megan Blanco**
Education and Workforce Policy Advisor
Office of Sen. Maggie Hassan

**Julianna Collado**
Legislative Aide
Senate HELP Committee

**Carson Cook**
Legislative Correspondent
Office of Sen. Bernie Moreno

**Sujith Cherukumilli**
Education and Workforce Policy Advisor
Senate HELP Committee

**Sean Dunn**
Senior Adviser/Counsel
Office of Sen. John Husted

**Jake Easter**
Education Policy Adviser
Senate HELP Committee

**Alaura Ervin**
Education Policy Director
Senate HELP Committee

**Jose Garcia**
Education Policy Adviser
Senate HELP Committee

**Jackson Hern**
Education Policy Staff Assistant
Senate HELP Committee

**Rebecca Howard**
Senior Education and Workforce Policy Advisor
Office of Sen. Tim Kaine

**Tyler Jones**
Legislative Assistant
Office of Sen. John Husted

**Jessica Simmons**
Legislative Correspondent
Office of Sen. Chris Coons

**Michael Waske**
Senior Policy Advisor
Senate HELP Committee

# AGENDA

## Congressional Staff Network Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday, August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

### Tuesday August 26, 2025

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11:30 AM – 12:56 PM | **Flight: DCA to CLE**<br>*American Airlines Flight # AA 5535* | **REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT**<br>2401 Smith Blvd<br>Arlington, VA 22202 |
| 12:56 – 2:00 PM | **Travel to the Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network (MAGNET)** | |
| 2:00 – 3:15 PM | **Welcome Lunch: Introduction to Ohio's Jobs and Education Strategy & the Northeast Region's Response**<br><br>Speakers will welcome staffers to Ohio and provide an overview of key themes for the visit, including JobsOhio's statewide vision for economic development, and how the northeast Ohio region has approached implementation of that strategy.<br><br>Jacob Duritzsky from Team NEO – the region's economic development agency – will provide context around the region's key economic and demographic trends: growth industries, average wage vs. cost of living, the "supply" of trained workers versus current and projected hiring demand, and the youth disconnection rate.<br><br>- **Marcia J. Ballinger**, President, Lorain County Community College<br>- **Jacob Duritsky**, Vice President, Strategy and Research, Team NEO<br>- **Kristina Clouse**, Senior Managing Director, Talent, JobsOhio | **MAGNET**<br>1800 E 63rd St<br>Cleveland, OH 44103 |
| 3:15 – 4:15 PM | **Site Tour: Manufacturing Innovation, Technology** | **MAGNET** |

Jobs for the Future

# Congressional Staff Network (CSN) Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

## & Job Center

1800 E 63rd St
Cleveland, OH 44103

Tour of MAGNET's headquarters in Cleveland's Hough Neighborhood, where they provide resources and training to help regional employers adapt to new technologies alongside hands-on learning activities for students and adults to learn about career pathways in the manufacturing industry.

- **Leah Epstein**, Chief Development & Engagement Office, MAGNET
- **Ethan Karp**, President & CEO, MAGNET

4:15 – 5:45 PM

## Revitalizing Ohio's Manufacturing Industry via Cross-Sector Partnerships

**MAGNET**

1800 E 63rd St
Cleveland, OH 44103

This session will highlight public-private partnerships underway to strengthen the regional manufacturing industry and prepare employers, students, and incumbent workers for success in an evolving sector. Industry representatives will share their perspective on the importance of cross-sector collaboration to develop education and training programs that respond to employer needs as they shift. Dr. Ethan Karp from MAGNET, the pilot site for the now-national network of Manufacturing Extension Partnerships, will discuss his organization's efforts to recruit and train new talent, including the ACCESS to Manufacturing Careers program for people re-entering their communities post-incarceration, and strategies to inspire the next generation of advanced manufacturing talent via work-based learning and hands-on career exploration activities.

Speakers will also discuss how federal funding has supported this work, including the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Community Colleges and Career Training grant program and a recent U.S. Department of Labor Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grants program award to support the North Shore Manufacturing Workforce Partnership.

- **Ethan Karp**, President & CEO, MAGNET
- **Taylor Maag**, Director, Workforce Policy, JFF *(moderator)*
- **Michelle Rose**, Executive Director, Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Workforce Development Board
- **Terri Burgess Sandu**, Director, Talent and Business Innovation, and Director, Ohio TechNet, Lorain County Community College

5:45 – 6:15 PM

## Travel to Dinner

Jobs for the Future

# Congressional Staff Network (CSN) Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

6:15 – 8:30 PM

## Dinner & Session: Effective Models for Re-Entry Programs

**EDWINS LEADERSHIP & RESTAURANT INSTITUTE**

12383 Cedar Rd
Cleveland Heights, OH 44106

Over dinner, staffers will hear about efforts underway to help incarcerated and returning citizens access job training and connections to their community. Featured programs include EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute which offers formerly incarcerated adults holistic support and a strong foundation in the culinary and hospitality industries, and Towards Employment's Community & Reentry and Cuyahoga-Lorain Early Advancement to Reentry (CLEAR) programs, which receives federal support including a $4 million U.S. DOL Pathway Home grant.

- **Ronnie Cannon**, Senior Manager, Community Engagement, Towards Employment
- **Brandon Edwin Chrostowski**, Founder, CEO & President, EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute
- **Taylor Maag**, Director, Workforce Policy, JFF *(moderator)*
- **Jill Rizika**, President & CEO, Towards Employment
- **Cassandra Tenorio**, Program Developer, Business Growth Services – Workforce, Lorain County Community College

8:30 – 8:45 PM

## Travel to Hotel

8:45 PM

## Check in to Hotel

**KIMPTON SCHOFIELD HOTEL**

2000 E 9th St
Cleveland, OH 44115

# Wednesday August 27, 2025

8:00 – 9:00 AM

## Travel to Lorain County Community College (LCCC)

9:00 – 10:45 AM

## Breakfast & Session: LCCC's Role in Driving Regional Economic Uplift

**LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Campana Center for Ideation and Invention, Room PC 108
1005 Abbe Rd N
Elyria, OH 44035

Panelists will open with an overview of the evolution of the community college business model, from focusing primarily on student access and academic success to today's strong emphasis on workforce outcomes, meeting employer needs, and serving as a key partner in regional economic development efforts. After

Jobs for the Future

# Congressional Staff Network (CSN) Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

learning about state policies and investments that have enabled this transition – among them, College Credit Plus, the Ohio Work Ready Grant, the Short-Term Certificate Grant Program, the Individual Microcredential Assistance Program, and TechCred – speakers will dive into how LCCC is advancing statewide goals for attainment and economic growth at the local level.

- **Marcia J. Ballinger**, President, Lorain County Community College
- **Julie Szeltner**, Director of Talent Engagement, Team NEO
- **Jeremy Varner**, Deputy Director of Career-Technical Education and Workforce, Ohio Department of Education and Workforce
- **Diane Xander**, Superintendent, Polaris Career Center

10:45 – 11:20 AM

## Site Tour: LCCC's Campana Center for Ideation and Invention

**LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Campana Center for Ideation and Invention
1005 Abbe Rd N
Elyria, OH 44035

During this tour of the Campana Center for Ideation and Invention, LCCC leaders will highlight laddered pathways that extend from secondary schools through associate's degrees and beyond, including transfer pathways to four-year institutions.

- **Kelly Zelesnik**, Dean of Engineering, Business and Information Technologies, LCCC

11:20 AM – 12:30 PM

## Lunch & Session: Supporting the Working Learner: How LCCC is Advancing Student Success

**LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Richard Desich Business and Entrepreneurship Center, Room DEC 220
1005 Abbe Rd N
Elyria, OH 44035

Over lunch, LCCC leadership will expand on the morning panel discussion, diving deeper into program models that well-serve students who are from low-income backgrounds and adults who have yet to complete their high school coursework. Specifically, the conversation will focus on the Students Accelerating in Learning (SAIL) Program, a comprehensive and research-backed approach to student success that pairs financial, academic, and career planning supports; and the Aspire Program, which provides free instructional services to adult learners without a GED or equivalent.

- **Marcia J. Ballinger**, President, LCCC
- **Susannah Rodrigue**, Senior Manager, Policy & Advocacy, JFF *(moderator)*
- **Marisa Vernon White**, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services, LCCC

Jobs for the Future

# Congressional Staff Network (CSN) Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

12:30 – 1:00 PM

## Travel to Midview High School

1:00 – 2:15 PM

## Transitions from Secondary, Postsecondary, and Careers including Dual Enrollment

**MIDVIEW HIGH SCHOOL**

38199 Capel Rd
Grafton, OH 44044

Secondary-postsecondary integration erases boundaries between K-12 and higher education systems to enable more students to advance seamlessly from K-12 to and through higher learning. Speakers will discuss local and state efforts to connect K-12 and postsecondary education, including Ohio's College Credit Plus (CCP) program that provides students in grades 7-12 the opportunity to earn college and high school credits concurrently, as well as the Statewide Innovative Waiver to expand CCP in high-demand industries. Leaders from Midview High School and LCCC will dive into local implementation of CCP, and how their partnership has increased high school students' postsecondary attainment and enrollment rates. Additionally, staffers will hear about how similar efforts to promote seamless secondary-to-postsecondary transitions are unfolding across the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and Cuyahoga Community College.

- **Erica Cuevas**, Director, Education Policy, JFF *(moderator)*
- **Eric Gordon**, CEO, Positive Education Program and Former Senior Vice President of Student Development and Education Pipeline, Cuyahoga Community College
- **Cindy Kushner,** Director, School, Workforce & Community Partnerships, LCCC
- **Frank Major,** Superintendent, Midview Local School District
- **Jodi Wolf**, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Midview Local Schools

2:15 – 2:55 PM

## Site Tour: Midview's Micro-Electromechanical Systems (MEMS) Program

**MIDVIEW HIGH SCHOOL**

38199 Capel Rd
Grafton, OH 44044

The MEMS program, a key partnership between Midview and LCCC, prepares high school students for a range of postsecondary credentials - including certifications, associate's degrees, and bachelor's degrees - while providing opportunities for hands-on skills development. Participants will tour the MEMS program, including its onsite clean room.

- **Kevin Gardella**, Science Teacher, Midview High School
- **Chad Heuser**, Principal, Midview High School

Jobs for the Future

# Congressional Staff Network (CSN) Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

2:55 – 3:30 PM **Travel to CVS Workforce Innovation and Talent Center**

3:30 – 4:45 PM

## Expanding Youth and Young Adults' Access to High Quality Career Exploration and Work-Place Experiences

CVS WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND TALENT CENTER

4500 Euclid Ave
Cleveland, OH 44103

Few young people have access to the essential career navigation and work-based learning services they need to make informed decisions about their education and career options after high school. To prepare *all* students for fulfilling careers, Ohio and the state's northeastern region have implemented policies and programs to expand opportunities for students to engage in career-based learning system-wide. Specifically, Ohio requires high schoolers to complete 250 hours of formal work-based learning before graduation, and there are various mechanisms for embedding career exploration and planning opportunities into curriculum.

In this session, speakers will share how local entities are partnering with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, employers, and other stakeholders to implement this state requirement and embed career exploration and planning opportunities throughout students' educational journeys. Staffers will learn about Youth Opportunities Unlimited and the Greater Cleveland Career Consortium Planning and Career Exploration (PACE) program and specific work-based learning models, such as the statewide High School Tech Internship Program and summer youth employment programs.

- **Erica Cuevas**, Director, Education Policy, JFF *(moderator)*
- **Amanda Fogerty,** Executive Communications Coordinator, Youth Opportunities Unlimited
- **David Giesige**, Chief Program Officer, Greater Cleveland Career Consortium
- **Cassandra Palsgrove**, Director of K-12 Education Policy, Ohio Excels

4:45 – 5:15 PM **Travel to Rock & Roll Hall of Fame**

5:15 – 6:15 PM

## How Cross-Sector Partnerships Drive Cleveland's Economic Development Strategy

ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME

1100 E 9th St
Cleveland, OH 44114

In this session, regional economic development leaders will discuss their approach to diversifying Cleveland's economy, focusing on how strong cross-sector partnerships help draw new investments and industries to the city.

Jobs for the Future

# Congressional Staff Network (CSN) Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

- **Michael A. Baston**, President, Cuyahoga Community College *(moderator)*
- **Greg Harris**, Director, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame
- **Emily Lauer,** Vice President, PR & Communications, Destination Cleveland

6:15 – 6:45 PM **Travel to Dinner**

6:45 – 8:30 PM **Dinner**

**MERWIN'S WHARF**

1785 Merwin Ave
Cleveland, OH 44113

Over dinner, Hill staff will sit down with practitioners to reflect further on the implications of the day's sessions for federal policy. Specifically, conversations will focus on federal policy levers to strengthen transitions from secondary to postsecondary education, support cross-sector partnerships, and embed career-connected learning in classrooms beyond Career Technical Education (CTE) programs.

8:30 – 8:45 PM **Travel to Hotel**

**KIMPTON SCHOFIELD HOTEL**

2000 E 9th St
Cleveland, OH 44115

## Thursday August 28, 2025

7:50 – 7:55 AM **Meet in Lobby, Check out**

**KIMPTON SCHOFIELD HOTEL**

2000 E 9th St
Cleveland, OH 44115

7:55 – 8:30 AM **Travel to Cuyahoga Community College**

8:30 – 9:15 AM **Breakfast & Session: Intro to Tri-C's Student Body & Institutional Strategy**

**CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Advanced Technology Training Center
3409 Woodland Ave
Cleveland, OH 44115

Over breakfast, Dr. Michael A. Baston, President of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) will orient staffers to Tri-C's service area and student body, its key program models, and priorities.

- **Michael A. Baston**, President, Cuyahoga Community College

9:15 – 10:30 AM **The Importance of Workforce-Aligned Postsecondary Education**

**CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Jobs for the Future

# Congressional Staff Network (CSN) Site Visit to Northeast Ohio

Tuesday August 26 – Thursday August 28, 2025

This session will highlight how institutions that are rethinking design and delivery of higher education to ensure a strong return on investment for students whose main goal in pursuing a postsecondary credential is to advance in their careers and increase their earning potential as quickly as possible. Specifically, speakers will explore the evidence base around several rapid reskilling models, including earn and learn and stackable short-term credentials, and discuss efforts to bridge institutional siloes across noncredit and for-credit programming. For reference, Rand Corporation recently released a study of Ohio's stackable credential pathways.

Advanced Technology Training Center
3409 Woodland Ave
Cleveland, OH 44115

- **Lindsay S. English**, Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs, Cuyahoga Community College
- **Steve Griffin**, Vice President of Skill Based Education and Career Pathways, Cuyahoga Community College
- **Susannah Rodrigue**, Senior Manager, Policy & Advocacy, JFF *(moderator)*
- **Rick Woodfield**, Chief Academic Officer, Ohio Association of Community Colleges

10:30 – 11:30 AM

## Site Tour: Tri-C Advanced Technology Training Center (ATTC)

**CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Advanced Technology Training Center
3409 Woodland Ave
Cleveland, OH 441151

Staff will learn about ATTC facilities, where Tri-C provides students with education, hands-on training and employment preparation skills for well-paying jobs.

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

## Wrap Up & Reflection

**En Route to Airport**

Informal discussion with staff about key takeaways from the trip – reflecting on learnings and ways that federal policymakers can assist states and localities to improve systems alignment, programming, and worker and learner outcomes.

- **Taylor Maag**, Director, Workforce Policy, JFF

12:15 – 1:26 PM

## Flight Check in

1:26 – 2:55 PM

## Flight: CLE to DCA

**CLEVELAND HOPKINS AIRPORT**

5300 Riverside Dr
Cleveland, OH 44135

*American Airlines Flight # AA 5535*