

DT Townsend
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions
(803) 952-7566
dt-lawrence.townsend@srs.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SRNS Youth Apprenticeship Program Gains Momentum

AIKEN, S.C., May 19, 2022 – Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) is working closely with the Allendale County School System to develop a paid youth apprenticeship pilot program at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

According to Dorian Newton, SRNS Apprenticeship and Pipeline Training, a successful apprenticeship program is already in place to develop and grow the talents of area high school-age students currently enrolled at nearby technical colleges offering occupational certificates and two-year degrees.

“We’re talking a small number of students for the pilot youth apprentice program,” said Newton. “But it’s an important step within a dedicated effort to learn what is best for the students. This is especially true regarding balancing their time in school with hours worked at SRS. By the end of the pilot program, we’re confident we’ll have a promising plan to move forward with an optimized program meeting the needs of numerous students from high schools throughout the region.”

The program exposes youth apprentices to specific sets of duties and responsibilities common to many missions pursued at the Department of Energy site.

“This, of course, will help achieve one of our company’s most important objectives, creating a strong employee pipeline filled with qualified candidates possessing a variety of skills and abilities tailored to the needs of our company,” said Newton.

He noted that both apprenticeship programs, at the youth- and collegiate-level, provide an important avenue for these students who are often facing social, educational and economic barriers not experienced to the same degree as most high school or technical college students in other parts of the state.

“I am confident that the resources in Allendale County School District, combined with those at SRNS, will create new and innovative ways to inspire and grow our scholars, resulting in a robust positive relationship that will ultimately



Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Human Resources personnel often promote the company’s apprenticeship programs during career fairs at local high schools as shown here in Aiken, S.C.

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produce an array of opportunities for all involved,” said Margaret Gilmore, Superintendent Allendale County School District. “The concept of developing a youth apprenticeship program to help fill current job openings at SRNS or create a natural progression for our scholars to enter apprenticeship programs at the technical college level, is intriguing and will undeniably prove to be highly successful and meaningful in enhancing chosen career pathways.”

Students can apply for SRNS apprenticeships at the following link:

<https://savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com/careers/careers.htm>

Criteria for the SRNS apprenticeship pilot program include:

- U.S. Citizen
- Shall be at least 16 years of age
- Must be a high school junior in pursuit of a diploma.
- Shall be physically capable of performing the essential functions of the occupation without endangering the health and safety of themselves and/or fellow workers. Applicants shall be allowed to request reasonable accommodation for a disability to meet this standard when applicable.
- Must pass a criminal background check, motor vehicle record check, General Employee Training and drug and alcohol screen and pre-employment physical.
- Must be able to lift record boxes weighing up to 30 lbs