

EARN Webinar:

Strengthening the Tech Workforce Through Apprenticeships, Skills-Based Hiring, and Disability Employment

August 19, 2026

Featured Speakers

Jennifer Carlson

Chief Executive Officer

Apprenti



Jennifer Carlson is the chief executive officer of Apprenti and a senior-level general manager and business strategist with 20+ years of experience leading workforce and talent initiatives. She is nationally recognized for advancing access to high-growth careers by aligning employer needs with apprenticeship and training models. As a nonprofit founder with over a decade of leadership experience, Jennifer has successfully scaled mission-driven organizations, built cross-sector partnerships, and delivered measurable outcomes. Her expertise spans business strategy, product development, and talent development, with a proven ability to translate vision into sustainable systems that expand opportunity while driving organizational performance, business and human outcomes.

Emma MacLean

Associate Director, Business Operations

Apprenti



Emma MacLean is an educator and disability advocate. Her path to accessible work has included being a paraprofessional at a school for children with disabilities, being a steering committee member of the Cultural Access Collab, and being a teaching artist with a theatre group in Chicago called A.B.L.E. (Artists Breaking Limits and Expectations) where she worked with actors with developmental and intellectual disabilities. She is currently the associate director of Business Operations at Apprenti. Also, she leads Apprenti's Access Team, where she works with apprentices, training providers, employers, and community partners to ensure accessibility and support.

Susanne Bruyère

Academic Director

K. Lisa Yang and Hock E. Tan Institute on
Employment and Disability



Susanne M. Bruyère, Ph.D., CRC, is the academic director of the K. Lisa Yang and Hock E. Tan Institute on Employment and Disability and principal investigator of EARN. For EARN, her efforts are focused on collaborating with project partners, fiscal administration and contributing to research around employment disability nondiscrimination and disability employment policy. As director of the Yang-Tan Institute, Susanne is responsible for the strategic and financial direction of a multi-million-dollar research, training, technical assistance and information dissemination organization devoted to improving employment outcomes and accessible communities for people with disabilities. Susanne is also a professor of Disability Studies at Cornell. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin.

EARN

Employer Assistance and Resource
Network on Disability

For more information, visit [AskEARN.org](https://www.AskEARN.org).

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