



Kansas State Council Wins 2023 SHRM Workplace Impact Award for Exceptional HR Program

Kan. —The Kansas State Council of SHRM’s HR Registered Apprenticeship Program “HR – RAP” was awarded the third annual SHRM Workplace Impact Award during the **Nov. 17 SHRM Volunteer Business Leaders Meeting in Washington D.C.** The award is for their efforts to address challenges currently impacting the world of work and to promote apprenticeships in the human resource profession within Kansas.

This achievement is part of SHRM’s Pinnacle Awards, the most prestigious honor SHRM state councils and chapters can receive. Created in 1991, it honors programs that exceed the standard activities of SHRM affiliates in enhancing HR management.

“I congratulate and applaud Kansas SHRM and its members as they successfully re-envision the future of work by showcasing new ways for business and management professionals to earn the credentials, they need to launch their careers”, said **SHRM President and CEO, Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., SHRM-SCP.** “As the HR field continues to evolve it must be instrumental in creating and implementing strategies to engage untapped talent pools”.

HR-RAP is an initiative the [SHRM Foundation launched](#) in 2021, with support from the U.S. Department of Labor, to help emerging HR professionals. The [Kansas State Council](#) applied for and was awarded a state grant to fund its project.

The council appointed Cassie Gilmore, SHRM-SCP, as its [Apprenticeship Navigator](#). Her role was to promote the initiative across the state with Kansas SHRM chapters, the Chamber of Commerce and other business entities about how organizations might sponsor individuals interested in pursuing an HR career. She also was involved in supporting state legislation—which the governor later signed—to establish financial aid to companies interested in pursuing apprenticeships. Within a few months of initiating HR-RAP, the Kansas State Council had eleven people enrolled in the program; others are in the process of joining. The council was recently one of eight entities across the state awarded a grant from the Kansas Department of Commerce to support continued funding of the program.

The winning chapter, selected from 69 applications, received a \$2,500 prize given by Raymond James, the sponsor of this year's Pinnacle Awards and a crystal trophy.

To learn more, please visit the [SHRM Pinnacle Award Program website](#).

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