AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS GUILD

The Desert Southwest Pilot

A limited proving ground in Arizona and Texas, with results before expansion.

Updated November 11, 2026 · Plain-language summary

Printable web reading guide · 11 November 2026

This reading guide summarizes ATG's supplied documents. The program is in development; descriptions of intended services are not announcements that enrollment or delivery has begun.

Three pieces to prove together

The DSW Credentialed Cohort connects instruction with demonstrated skills. Overflow with Standards tests defined scopes with verified supervision. The DSW Accountability Lens tracks safety, rework, credentials, and the ability to trace responsibility.

What participation would involve

The Pilot Process starts with a conversation and scope review, then checks workforce readiness and supervision. Written agreements define authority, reporting, and boundaries before deployment. Monitoring and a summary report follow the work. An initial conversation creates no commitment.

What the pilot must show

The intent is to compare safety, quality, workforce progression, and traceability against a meaningful baseline, report limitations, and publish lessons before expanding. There are no completed pilot outcomes posted here.

Preparation comes first

Registration, funding, qualified supervision, independent review, and signed agreements remain launch conditions. Experienced-worker assessment and separate supervisor qualification checks help establish the capacity needed before apprentice placement. Cohort targets and timing are planning assumptions, not available enrollment places.

Targeting a first intake in 2027

ATG is planning its first Desert Southwest pilot intake for 2027. The month and intake size will be announced after funding, approvals, qualified supervisors, and partner agreements are secured. Enrollment is not open.

The 24-month pathway runs from each apprentice's actual start: 3 months of academic and lab learning, 6 months of supervised field learning, and 15 months with an employer. A 2027 start would therefore target completion in 2029, subject to competency requirements and any interruptions.

Experienced-worker assessment and supervisor readiness come before supervised apprentice placements. The target of up to 75 new apprentices is a capacity goal, not a funded commitment. Each intake must fit the available 1:1 qualified supervision for Phase 2; smaller or staggered starts may be necessary.

The full apprenticeship is 24 months: 3 months of academic and lab learning, 6 months of supervised field learning, and 15 months with an employer. The "3 + 6" is the first nine months, not the complete program.

Phase 0
A separate experienced-worker assessment route. The v4 plan targets 15–25 advanced-standing placements in months 6–12; these are not 15–25 new apprentices.

First new-apprentice cohort
The v4 documents target up to 75 new apprentices. Current website planning targets the first intake in 2027; the date and size remain subject to launch conditions.

Supervision limit
Phase 2 requires one qualified journeyworker for each apprentice. A group of 15–25 eligible, available supervisors cannot support 75 simultaneous placements. Intake must be smaller or staggered unless additional qualified supervisors are secured.

Progression
From the confirmed intake date: initial nine-month stage, followed by 15 employer-based months. A 2027 intake targets full completion in 2029, subject to demonstrated competency.

Funding scenario
The older economics model uses a separate three-year enrollment scenario. It is not an approved cohort schedule or a secured budget. Public launch dates and intake numbers will follow a funded, supervised plan.

The v4 Phase 0 month numbers are earlier relative planning assumptions, not confirmed calendar dates. The 2027 intake target is the current planning direction. Registration and other approvals, funding, independent review, qualified supervision, and agreements remain conditions of launch.

The earlier nine-month / 18-month / $750,000 infographic is superseded and should not be used for outreach.

Public summary of the Pilot Anchor Brief v4, ACA Strategic Scorecard v4, and Pilot Process v3. The older infographic is omitted because its duration and cost figures do not match the revised program.

Current web guide: https://atguild.net/library-pilot