



Apprenticeship

WISCONSIN



How to Become an Apprentice

An apprenticeship is an "earn while you learn" program with a built in formal training agreement (Apprentice Contract) providing on-the-job training and related instruction. The training is received on-the-job where the employer teaches the skills of the occupation. The classroom instruction is theoretical knowledge pertaining to a specific occupation and usually taught at an area technical college. When unavailable, factory training schools or correspondence courses can be substituted. The term of training may vary from 2 to 5 years, depending on the occupation.

THE FIRST STEP IS TO SELECT AN OCCUPATIONAL AREA

You can explore occupations and industry sectors on our website. Depending on the occupation you choose, wages may vary. Most apprentices begin at approximately 50% of the current skilled wage rate. It has been the practice in most occupations to provide a periodic step increase every months or 1040 hours. Apprentice's wages must average 60% of the skilled wage rate during the term of the apprenticeship program.

THE SECOND STEP DEPENDS ON YOUR CHOICE OF OCCUPATION

CONSTRUCTION OCCUPATIONAL AREAS

Apprenticeships in the construction industry are offered through Local Apprenticeship Committees who:

- use various methods for qualifying applicants, some use a rank list and others use a letter of introduction.
- maintain a waiting list of applicants, who have successfully passed the required testing and interview.

You can obtain a list of the Local Apprenticeship Committees and their requirements by visiting our website and searching under the **Featured Sponsors** tab and clicking on the **Local Apprenticeship Committee** link. When you have selected one or more construction occupations that you are interested in, contact the Local Apprenticeship Committee training office directly and speak with the Apprenticeship Training Coordinator for any further information needed.

AGRICULTURE, FINANCE, HEALTHCARE, MANUFACTURING, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, SERVICE AND UTILITY OCCUPATIONAL AREAS

Apprenticeships in these occupational areas must be applied for through an employer's personnel or hiring office.

- Some apprenticeship sponsors and the occupations they train in are listed on our website under the Featured Sponsor tab.
- Apprenticeship openings can also be listed with on **JobCenterofWisconsin.com**

Often the best chance to obtain an apprenticeship is to find an employer willing to hire you and then persuade them to provide skilled training. Some large industrial/manufacturing plants often have a bargaining agreement with a union that makes apprenticeship opportunities only available to workers already employed in their current workforce. For more detailed information, please visit our website:

www.wisconsinapprenticeship.org