



## Apprenticeship Opportunities for Men and Women

Apprenticeship training offers state departments of education and career and technical programs a unique opportunity to partner with business and industry to blend classroom instruction with hands-on training in the workplace. Much as in the past, the student (apprentice) under the guidance of a highly skilled worker (the mentor) learns and develops skills for a specific occupation over a specified period of time. Today, however, there is a need to provide both young men and women with opportunities to pursue nontraditional careers through apprenticeships. Opportunities will vary from state to state, program to program and employer to employer, but guidance counselors, instructors, parents, and students can learn more about apprenticeship training by contacting trade organizations and local industry and/or union representatives.

So, why should nontraditional students and employers consider apprenticeship training? Apprenticeship training provides students with the opportunity to begin a career that may not otherwise be available to an unskilled individual and to learn skills specifically needed by area employers so that they can immediately be productive. The employer also has a chance to observe the apprentices' skills and work habits firsthand. In some cases, apprentices are paid as they train and may even be eligible for school tuition.

Costs to start up an apprenticeship program are minimal, but it does take planning between the program instructor, school officials, and the employer. Perhaps the biggest hurdle is getting the employer to commit a highly skilled worker as a trainer (mentor) for the student over a long period of time. It will also be necessary for the employer to document the student's training and skill levels.

According to the Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards, State of Wisconsin, there are eight standards for apprentices. These clearly define the expected commitment by the individual (student) accepting an apprenticeship as part of his/her education.

1. The ability to meet the expected standards of employment in the trades; generally referred to in the industry as the "work ethic"
2. A thorough knowledge of and commitment to the physical, mental, and emotional demands of the occupation
3. The physical ability and strength necessary to the particular trade
4. The academic requirements for apprenticeship and the ability to maintain an acceptable level of performance in apprenticeship academics and work site learning situations
5. The ability to function successfully within the context of employer and co-worker expectations and the required work processes
6. The maintenance of personal living habits that support success in the work environment
7. The motivation to achieve clearly defined personal and work related goals
8. The thinking and problem solving skills necessary to efficient and effective work and academic progress.

## Apprentice Opportunities By Trade

Note: Opportunities will vary by location. Check with your state employment agency or apprenticeship bureau.

### Construction Trades

Bricklayer  
Carpenter  
Cement Masonry  
Construction Equipment Operator  
Electrician  
Environmental Systems Technician  
Iron Worker  
Painter  
Plasterer  
Plumber  
Roofer  
Sheet Metal Worker  
Sprinklerfitter

### Industrial Trades

Architectural Drafter  
Blacksmith  
Boat Builder  
Cabinet Maker  
Industrial Designer  
Electrical Technician  
Electronic Technician  
Foundry Technician  
Furniture Detailer  
Instrument Repairer  
Industrial Maintenance  
Machinist  
Maintenance Mechanic  
Mechanical Drafter  
Metal Fabricator  
Millwright  
Pipefitter  
Quality Control Engineer  
Stone Cutter  
Tool and Die Maker  
Welder

### Service Trades

Auto Body Repair Mechanic  
Auto Mechanic  
Baker  
Barber  
Chef  
Communications Line Worker  
Cosmetologist  
Dental Technician  
Diesel Truck Technician  
Electric Line Worker  
Farm Equipment Mechanic  
Firefighter  
Funeral Director  
Gas and Electric  
Graphic Arts  
Jeweler  
Landscape  
Meat Cutter  
Pharmacy Technician  
Radio and Television Technician  
Small Engine Mechanic  
Surveyor  
Watchmaker  
Well Driller