

Apprentice Training Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is an apprentice?

- An apprentice is a training-level employee who works in the building and construction trades while also attending classes to learn industry skills and safety techniques. Wages for an apprentice increase over the course of this training, which lasts from two to five years depending on the trade. An apprentice who graduates to journey-person is recognized as a well-qualified worker who can command the best wages and benefits.

2. What are the qualifications to become an apprentice?

- Qualifications to become an apprentice include a strong foundation of math and literacy skills, a high school or equivalent diploma, and the ability to successfully complete an aptitude test. Additionally, a qualified candidate must be physically fit, drug free, have access to reliable transportation, and have proof of citizenship or the legal right to work in the United States of America.

3. What are the benefits of an Apprenticeship Training and Union Membership?

- Apprenticeship training provides individuals with the skills needed to compete economically and work safely. Union members of the building and construction trades typically receive higher wages and better benefits than those employed by non-union contractors.

4. What are the requirements to become an Apprentice?

- A Candidate must be 18 years of age and provide the following information at the time of application:
 - Birth Certificate
 - High School Diploma or GED
 - High School Transcripts
 - Veterans may supply copy of DD214
- Applications will not be processed until the above qualifications are met. Applications may be updated at any time.

5. How are applicants ranked?

- Applicants are ranked numerically on an eligibility list for Apprenticeship entry. Ranking points are given for education, previous employment, past employers recommendations and for military service. Classes useful in preparation for a career in the Union Ironworking industry are:
 - Mathematics
 - Drafting and blueprint reading
 - Construction technology
 - Shop classes
 - Welding

6. How long is the Apprenticeship Program?

- The Apprenticeship Program runs for three years. Every student will be required to attend 188 hours of classroom training each year.

7. What is the curriculum for the Apprenticeship Program?

- The Apprenticeship curriculum is as follows (required hours in parentheses):
 - Pre-training:
 - Orientation (4)
 - OSHA 10 (10)
 - Scaffold User/Erector/Dismantler (16)
 - 1st Year:
 - 1st Trimester:
 - First Aid/CPR (8)
 - Lath (44)
 - 2nd Trimester:
 - Rebar (52)
 - 3rd Trimester:
 - Mathematics
 - 2nd Year:
 - 1st Trimester:
 - Labor History (60)
 - 2nd Trimester:
 - Unbonded Post-Tensioning (48)
 - 3rd Trimester:
 - Blueprint Reading (48)
 - Survival of the Fittest/Foreman's Training (32)
 - 3rd Year:
 - 1st Trimester:
 - Lath Design (48)
 - 2nd Trimester:
 - Rigging (48)
 - 3rd Trimester:
 - Welding (96)