



# Apprenticeship Programs and Trade/Vocational Schools

# What is a trade school vs. an apprenticeship program?

**Apprenticeships are hands-on work opportunities, while trade schooling is conducted in a classroom environment.**

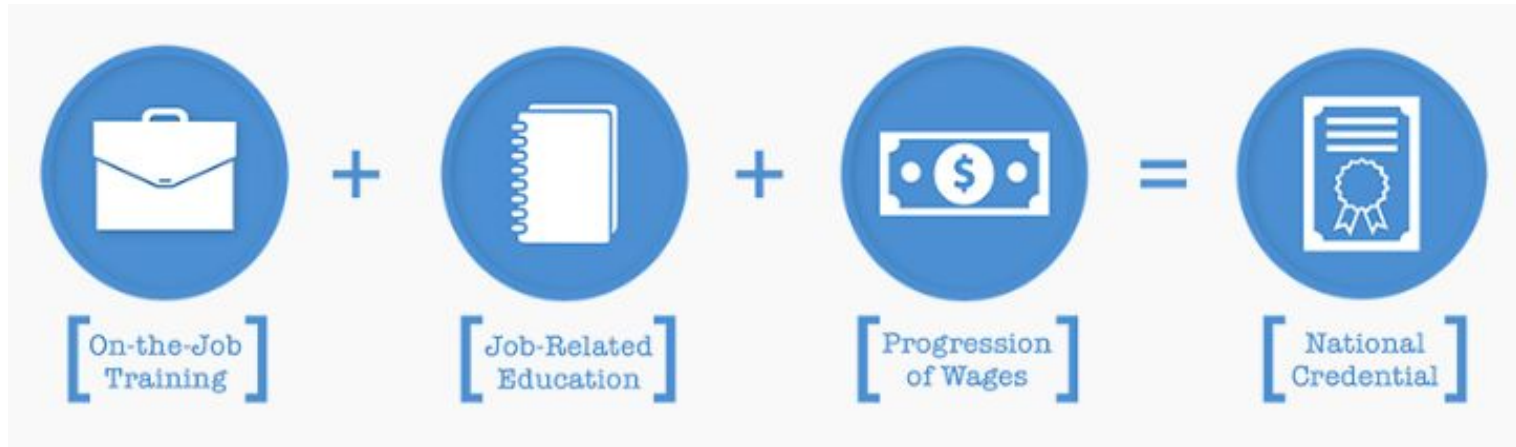
Most union workers have the option of enrolling in a trade school or to take on an apprenticeship program. Though both training methods pave an excellent learning path, they are fundamentally different.



# What is an apprenticeship program?

An apprenticeship is a system for training a new practitioners in a trade or profession with on-the-job training and often some accompanying study. Apprenticeships can also enable practitioners to gain a license to practice in a regulated occupation.

*\*All while earning a wage that increases during the progression of the program!*



# What is a trade school?



A trade school, or vocational school, teaches students specific trade skills required for certain technical or mechanical jobs.

To do these jobs, a person must learn special skills that not just anyone can do. A trade school provides hands-on training for many industries and a great learning environment to practice with the proper tools, techniques, materials, etc.

When you finish your time at a vocational school, you will leave with a certificate or a degree. After this, you may have to continue your education or work experience to get certified in your field.







# Differences between college and trade school

## Trade School vs College

### Trade School

-  Specific training
-  Lower cost on average
-  Hard skills
-  Simple admissions process
-  Shorter time commitment
-  Lower earnings on average

### College

-  Broad Education
-  Potential for large student debt
-  Soft Skills
-  More in-depth admissions process
-  Longer duration
-  Higher earnings on average

### Trade School



#### TIME

2 years or less



#### COST

\$10,000 (per year)



#### JOB SECURITY

Domestic & Onsite

### College



#### TIME

4-6 years



#### COST

\$100,000 - \$150,000  
(4 years)



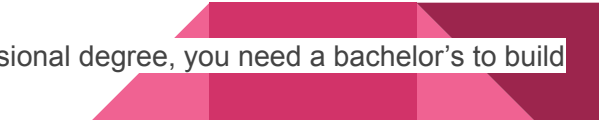
#### JOB SECURITY

Chance of  
Outsourcing

- Trade School:

- Shorter completion time: On average, trade school takes less time to complete than a four-year colleges.
- Lower cost on average: On average, trade schools are far more affordable than four-year institutions. You are far more likely to graduate with little to no debt.
- Simple admissions process: Trade schools don't require a lengthy admissions process. This means you can be admitted to a trade school on short notice and with less hoops to jump through.
- Career-specific training: Trade schools prepare you to enter a specific field and teach you all the hands on skills you need to be career ready.

- College:

- Degree Completion: College graduates earn bachelor's degrees. Many white collar jobs require now require a bachelor's degree to get your foot in the door, opening up an array of options.
  - General Education: College graduates earn more general knowledge than trade school attendees, in addition to developing soft skills.
  - More educational options: Rather than preparing you for one career like trade school, colleges give students a more varied education that allows them more options upon completion. For example, if you study web development but decide you hate coding, you will have general knowledge that is applicable for other careers.
  - Opportunities for continued education: To achieve a master's, doctorate, or other professional degree, you need a bachelor's to build on.
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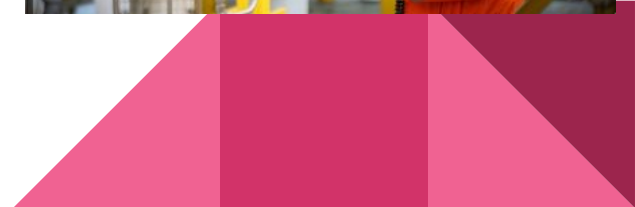
# Average requirements to apply

- Applicants must be 18 years old
- Photo ID
- A high school diploma or GED or certificate of proficiency
- Applicants must be physically fit to do the work of the trade
- \*Advancing in math classes, such as Geometry or Trigonometry, can be helpful depending on the trade
- Qualifying test for applicants who successfully submit and meet the above requirements



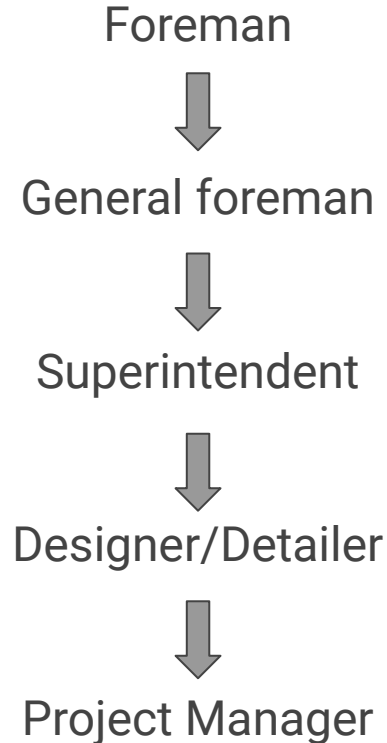
# Types of jobs available

- Electrician
- Welder
- HVAC Technician
- Dental Assistant
- Power Plant Operators
- Plumbing
- EMT
- High Purity Process Piping Systems
- Medical Gas
- Steam Technology
- Surgical Technologist
- Drywall/Lather
- Hardwood Floor Layer
- Barber/Cosmetologist
- Medical Technician
- Sheet Metal Worker
- Carpentry
- And MANY MORE!





# Future opportunities for advancement



## IBEW Local Union 302 Wage Rates (Martinez, CA)

- Journeyman Wireman.....\$58.26/hour
- Foreman.....\$65.54/hour
- General Foreman.....\$72.83/hour
- Senior General Foreman.....\$75.74/hour



# Salary Information

## Journeyman salary example

PERCENTAGE OF JOURNEY PERSON WAGE	TAXABLE	BENEFITS	401K	CALIFORNIA PENSION	NATIONAL PENSION
<u>START OF YEAR 1</u> (40%)	\$29.78	YES	YES	YES	YES
<u>START OF YEAR 2</u> (45%)	\$33.49	YES	YES	YES	YES
<u>START OF YEAR 2.5</u> (50%)	\$37.22	YES	YES	YES	YES
<u>START OF YEAR 3</u> (55%)	\$40.94	YES	YES	YES	YES
<u>START OF YEAR 3.5</u> (60%)	\$44.66	YES	YES	YES	YES
<u>START OF YEAR 4</u> (65%)	\$48.38	YES	YES	YES	YES
<u>START OF YEAR 4.5</u> (70%)	\$52.11	YES	YES	YES	YES
<u>START OF YEAR 5</u> (75%)	\$55.83	YES	YES	YES	YES
<u>START OF YEAR 5.5</u> (80%)	\$59.55	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b><u>JOURNEYPerson</u></b>	<b>\$69.07</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>

# Where to start?

Enrolling at community colleges is a great start!

- DVC
- City College of San Francisco
- Carrington College
- Diablo Valley College
- Merritt Community College
- Laney College
- ...and there are many more!



California  
Community  
Colleges



# Local Trade Schools/Programs

Loma Vista CTEC Programs  
Plumbers/Steamfitters Local 342  
Plumbers Local 152  
IronWorkers Local 378  
Carpenters Local 152  
Nor Cal Carpenters Training  
Local 34 Pile Drivers  
IBEW Local 302 - Electricians  
Sheet Metal Local 104 &  
Bay Area Training Industry Fund  
Operating Engineers Local 3  
Nor Cal Tile Industry  
Sprinklerfitters Local 483  
Diablo Valley College  
Los Medanos College  
Contra Costa College

Southwest Airlines  
Universal Technical Institute - UTI  
Paul Mitchell - East Bay  
Urban Barber College  
Fashion Institute of Design &  
Merch.  
Academy of Art  
Woodbury University  
University of Silicon Valley  
Johnson & Wales  
CSU Maritime Academy  
Army  
Navy  
Air Force Reserves  
Marines  
Coast Guard

Boilermakers Local 549  
Heat & Frost Insulators Local 16 JATC  
Land Surveyors Apprenticeship  
Technical Engineers Apprenticeship  
National Guard  
Kaiser Perm. School of Allied Health  
Unitek College  
Contra Costa Medical Career College  
Concord Police Department - Cadets  
American Medical Response  
CCC Fire Protection District  
Contra Costa Office of Sheriff  
EBMUD  
CCC Water District  
Year Up at DVC  
Job Corps

# Benefits of working in a trade

## Excellent pay

Skilled tradespeople often make equivalent to or more than their academic counterparts with college degrees. Most trade jobs not only offer high take home pay, but great benefit and retirement packages. These benefits are not always found in other careers.

Due to the high demand of these careers, the wages earned in them have always been substantial. Individuals that continue to seek excellence in their trade path and develop their craft find more opportunities to gain a higher income by learning more applications/processes. They become in-demand workers and move into mentor roles for students coming into their chosen field behind them.

## Travel the world

Trade jobs are not limited to local businesses. They offer opportunities across the country and worldwide. Trade jobs are universal as the skills in any trade will be the same no matter where the job takes an individual, and that makes relocation easy.

## Job security

Skilled trades workers were not impacted by the pandemic in lost worked time, as many other jobs were. Many manufacturing jobs continued and even increased in these times to supply the world mid-pandemic and trades workers have always been in high demand. Having certifications gives individuals the security to travel and know that they will have the skills needed to gain employment anywhere they go

## Inclusive work

Unlike the image often associated with skilled trades, the industries we know today are all-inclusive. The gender/race/ability of workers is no longer a barrier. Most shops employ people from all demographics, genders, races, religions, abilities, and skill sets.

