GETTING INTO THE TRADES
GETTING INTO THE TRADES

QUALIFICATIONS
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a valid driver’s license (most trades)

WHERE DO TRADESMEN/WOMEN WORK?
- Schools
- Hospitals
- New Home Construction
- Apartments
- Shopping Centers
- Office Buildings
- Commercial Construction
- Power Plants
- Stadiums & Arenas

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Most programs can be completed in 3-5 years
- Classroom work and home studies are required
- On-the-job Training
- Some travel may be required
MILWAUKEE AREA APPRENTICESHIP COORDINATORS

GREAT LAKES AREA BOILERMAKERS
Mark Gustafson, Apprenticeship Training Coordinator
5666 West 95th Street Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 636-6656
glabap@glabap.com

BOILERMAKERS J.A.T.C. – WAUKESHA
318 Gateway Rd, Suite 200 Brookfield, WI 53005
(262) 754-3167
boilermakers107@sbcglobal.net

BRICKLAYERS J.A.T.C.
Don Borchert, Apprenticeship Training Coordinator
17125 W Cleveland Ave New Berlin, WI 53151
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CARPENTERS J.A.T.C.
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ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY J.A.T.C.
Dan Large, Apprenticeship Training Director
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CEMENT MASONS J.A.T.C.
Josh Tyrrell, Apprenticeship Coordinator
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opcmia599.josh@gmail.com

ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS J.A.C.
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GLAZIERS J.A.C.
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HEAT AND FROST INSULATORS J.A.T.C.
Craig Stevanos, Apprenticeship Training Coordinator
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IRONWORKERS J.A.T.C.
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LABORERS J.A.C.
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ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY J.A.T.C.
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OPERATING ENGINEERS J.A.C.
Dan Sperberg, Apprenticeship Training Coordinator
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dan@woetrainingcenter.org

PAINTERS J.A.C.
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adam@capa137.com

PLUMBERS J.A.T.C.
Wesley Zastrow, Apprenticeship Training Director
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ROOFERS J.A.C.
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STEAMFITTERS J.A.T.C.
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SHEET METAL WORKERS J.A.C.
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SPRINKLERFITTERS J.A.T.C.
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TILESETTERS J.A.T.C.
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MILWAUKEE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL
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WRTP/BIG STEP
Laura Heller, Construction Program Manager
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GETTING INTO THE TRADES | WRTP | BIG STEP
BECOMING A BOILERMAKER

A Boilermaker is a highly skilled tradesman who erects and maintains various types of pressure vessels:
- Small boilers
- Coal fired boilers
- Blast furnaces
- Basic Oxygen Furnaces

A BOILERMAKER’S SKILLS INCLUDE:
- Welding
- Heavy and high rigging
- Burning
- Layout work

WHERE DOES A BOILERMAKER WORK?
- Schools
- Hospitals
- Power Generating Plants
- Steel Mills
- Chemical Plants
- Refineries
- Paper Mills

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must not be claustrophobic
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must be willing to work the night shift
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
- Knowledge of general math, geometry, mechanical drawing, and welding preferred
- Must not be afraid of heights

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Application accepted yearly
- On-the-job training
- Program is 4 years
- Some travel may be required
- Classroom work and home studies are required
BECOMING A BRICK LAYER OR TILE LAYER

WHAT DO BRICKLAYERS AND TILE LAYERS DO?
- Plastering
- Marble work
- Tile Laying
- Pointing & Restoration
- Terrazzo
- Brick Laying

WHERE DO BRICKLAYER AND TILE LAYERS WORK?
- Schools
- Shopping Centers
- Hospitals
- Office Buildings
- New Home Construction
- Apartments
- Older Buildings in need of Restoration

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must have a valid driver’s license
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 3 years
- On-the-job training with an experienced journeyman
- Classroom work and home studies are required
- Some travel may be required

BECOMING A CARPENTER

WHAT DOES A CARPENTER DO?
Rough work:
- Residential Framing
- Concrete Form Building
Finish work:
- Cabinet Installation
- Door hanging
- Stair Installation
Interior Systems work:
- Acoustical Ceilings
- Metal Studs/Drywall
- Access Floor Systems

WHERE DO CARPENTERS WORK?
- Houses
- Theaters
- Office Buildings
- Shopping Centers
- Factories
- Schools
- Warehouses

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a valid driver’s license

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 4 years
- On-the-job Training
- Classroom work and home studies are required
- Some travel may be required
BECOMING A CEMENT MASON OR PLASTERER

WHAT DOES A CEMENT MASON DO?
- Level Concrete
- Finish & Cure Concrete
- Cut, Repair & Resurface Concrete
- Create Architectural finishes

WHAT DOES A PLASTERER DO?
- Plastering
- Finishing
- Textures
- Fireproofing
- Cure plastered surfaces
- Mold/Install Ornamental Pieces

WHERE DO CEMENT MASON AND PLASTERS WORK?
- Schools
- Shopping Centers
- Hospitals
- Office Buildings
- New Home Construction
- Commercial Construction
- Apartments

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must have a valid driver’s license
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 3 years
- Classroom work and home studies are required
- On-the-job Training with an experienced journeyman
- Some travel may be required

GETTING INTO THE TRADES | WRTP | BIG STEP
BECOMING AN ELECTRICIAN

WHAT DOES AN ELECTRICIAN DO?
- Install & Repair Fixtures
- Install & Repair Control Equipment
- Assemble & Install Electrical Conduit
- Test Continuity of Circuits
- Install & Wire Electrical Systems

WHERE DO ELECTRICIANS WORK?
- Homes
- Hospitals
- Commercial Office Buildings
- Utility Companies
- Schools

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must have completed 2 full years of high school math (one of the courses MUST be a full year of Algebra) with a minimum grade of “C.”
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a valid driver’s license

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 5 years
- Aptitude Test may be required
- On-the-job Training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required
- Classroom work and home studies are required

BECOMING A GLAZIER

WHAT DOES A GLAZIER DO?
- Architectural Metal Framing
- Cut, Fabricate and Install Glass
- Removal & Replacement of Broken Glass
- Install Glass Mirrors

WHERE DO GLAZIERS WORK?
- Home
- Hospitals
- Large Commercial Buildings
- Outside on Scaffolding
- Schools

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must have a valid driver’s license
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 4 years
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Classroom work and home studies are required
- Some travel may be required
BECOMING AN INSULATOR

WHAT DOES A HEAT AND FROST INSULATOR DO?
- Insulate Boilers
- Insulate Steam Lines
- Insulate Hot & Cold Systems
- Cover, Seal, or Finish Insulation

WHERE DO INSULATORS WORK?
- Mechanical Systems
- Industrial Projects
- Commercial Office Buildings
- Schools

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must be willing to work in extreme heat and confined spaces
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 4 years
- You must pass a preliminary test
- Some travel may be required
- You must attend and pay tuition for 3 semesters of schooling; you will be paid for your time in class
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
BECOMING AN IRONWORKER

WHAT DOES AN IRONWORKER DO?
- Erection of structural steel
- Placement of reinforcing bars in concrete construction
- Rigging and erection of equipment
- Installation of miscellaneous fabricated building components
- Welding fabrication, ornamental, aluminum, sah, brass, bronze and plastic materials
- Work with metal to close tolerances
- Machinery moving

WHERE DO IRONWORKERS WORK?
- Bridges
- Sports stadiums
- Industrial and commercial buildings
- Large residential buildings

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 4 years
- You must pass a preliminary test
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required

BECOMING A LABORER

WHAT DOES A LABORER DO?
- Dig trenches
- Load & Unload
- Lift & Carry
- Landscaping
- Demolition
- Close and Prepare sites for Construction
- Traffic Control onsite
- Set Braces
- Erect Scaffolding

WHERE DO LABORERS WORK?
- Bridges
- Highway Construction
- Sports stadiums
- Industrial and commercial buildings
- Large residential buildings
- Commercial Buildings
- Schools
- Hospitals

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 3 years
- You must pass a preliminary test
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required
BECOMING A MILLWRIGHT

WHAT DOES A MILLWRIGHT DO?
Installs and Aligns:
· Heavy Industrial Machines
· Conveyor Systems
· Monorail Systems
· Electric Generators
Skills:
· Precision
· Drilling & Tapping
· Welding & Bolting

WHERE DO MILLWRIGHTS WORK?
· Power Generating Stations
· Warehouses
· Factories
· Schools

AM I QUALIFIED?
· Must be at least 18 years of age
· Must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
· Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
· Must have a sincere interest in the trade
· Must have a valid driver’s license

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
· Program is approximately 4 years
· Classroom work and home studies are required
· On-the-job training
· Some travel may be required
BECOMING AN OPERATING ENGINEER

WHAT DOES AN OPERATING ENGINEER DO?
- Cranes
- Dozers
- Scrapers
- Loaders
- Motor Graders
- Tractor Loader Backhoes
- Excavators
- Rollers
- Pavers
- Crushing
- Screening and Washing Plants
- Asphalt Plants
- Concrete Plants and Mixers
- Compressors

WHERE DO OPERATING ENGINEERS WORK?
- Bridges
- Highway Construction
- Sports Stadiums
- Large Residential Buildings
- Commercial Buildings
- Dams
- Plants that produce rock, sand, & gravel

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a valid driver’s license
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program requires 6,000 hours on the job
- You must pass an aptitude test
- Some travel may be required
- Must attend an orientation
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman

BECOMING A PAINTER

WHAT DOES A PAINTER DO?
- Apply paint or special coatings
- Paper hangers apply wall coverings such as paper, fabric and plastics
- Drywall finishers apply tape and finishes to previously hung gypsum wall board
- Bridges
- Industrial Projects
- Schools
- Commercial Buildings
- Homes

WHERE DO PAINTERS WORK?
- Bridges
- Industrial Projects
- Schools
- Commercial Buildings
- Homes

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a valid driver’s license
- Must have manual dexterity
- Good eyesight and color-sense is preferable
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 4 years (2 years for Drywall Taper)
- You must pass an aptitude test
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required
- Must attend an orientation
- Attend school 1 day/week for 3 semesters
- Complete 3 evening school courses
- Complete 2 evening courses for Drywall Taper
BECOMING A PLUMBER

WHAT DOES A PLUMBER DO?
- Install Interior and Exterior Sewage Systems
- Prepare, Install, Test, Maintain and Remove Vertical and Horizontal Waste Systems
- Install Water Supply Systems
- Set and Connect Plumbing and Gas Fixtures and Appliances
- Cut, Thread, Weld, Brazed, Solder, and Bend Pipe
- Install Pipe Assemblies, Fittings, Valves, and Appliances

WHERE DO PLUMBERS WORK?
- Schools
- Homes
- Hospitals
- Commercial Buildings
- Industrial Projects
- Waste Water Plants

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a valid driver’s license
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 5 years
- You must pass an aptitude test
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required
BECOMING A ROOFER

WHAT DOES A ROOFER DO?
- Apply hot built-up roofing
- Apply single-ply roofing
- Install shingle, tile, and slate roofs
- Waterproof Foundations and Plazas
- Line Ponds and Tanks

WHERE DO ROOFERS WORK?
- Schools
- Commercial Buildings
- Homes
- Hospitals
- Industrial Projects

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a reliable form of transportation
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 4 years
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required
- Classroom training

BECOMING A SHEET METAL WORKER

WHAT DOES A SHEET METAL WORKER DO?
- Fabricate, Install, & Maintain HVAC Systems
- Sign work
- Sheet Metal Decking and Siding
- Heavy Metal Work and Blowpipe
- Ornamental and Decorative Sheet Metal
- Architectural Work (Copper Work, Rain Protection Systems, and Skylights)

WHERE DO SHEET METAL WORKERS WORK?
- Schools
- Commercial Buildings
- Fabrication Shops
- Industrial Projects
- Homes
- Hospitals

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a reliable form of transportation
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 5 years
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required
- Classroom training
- Working in confined spaces
BECOMING A SPRINKLER FITTER

WHAT DOES A SPRINKLER FITTER DO?
- Install Fire Protection Systems
- Install, Repair, and Maintain Fixed Piping
- Cut, Thread, and Hammer Pipe
- Assemble and Secure Pipes, Tubes, Fittings, and Related Equipment

WHERE DO SPRINKLER FITTERS WORK?
- Schools
- Homes
- Hospitals
- Commercial Buildings
- Large Residential Buildings

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a reliable form of transportation

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 5 years
- Classroom work and home studies are required
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required
BECOMING A STEAMFITTER

WHAT DOES A STEAMFITTER DO?
- Rigging, setting, supporting and piping of related equipment, valves, fittings
- Pressure Tests: Systems for Leaks
- Threading
- Welding

WHERE DO STEAMFITTERS WORK?
- Schools
- Homes
- Hospitals
- Commercial Buildings
- Large Residential Buildings
- Power Plants
- Waste Water Treatment Plants
- Industrial Projects
- New Construction

AM I QUALIFIED?
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a sincere interest in the trade
- Must have a valid driver’s license
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHILE TRAINING?
- Program is approximately 5 years
- You must pass an aptitude test
- On-the-job training with an experienced Journeyman
- Some travel may be required
GETTING INTO THE TRADES

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