

Apprenticeships: Building the U.S.A

Skilled Labor builds our country, cities, and neighborhoods. If you have driven through the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia in the last few years, you have seen workers everywhere: Electricians working on lighting; Bricklayers laying down the new sidewalks; Heavy Equipment Operators running backhoes; and, so much more. These are all Skilled Labor Workers, and you could work alongside them by participating in and completing an Apprenticeship Program.



What Is An Apprenticeship?

An Apprenticeship is a Training Program hosted by a Skilled Labor Provider (Ironworkers Union, Laborers' Union, etc.) The Program is made up of a combination of classroom learning, on-the- job training and mentorship that will turn you into an “expert” in your chosen field.

And, you get paid to work and learn!

What Types of Apprenticeships exist and Which One is Right For Me?

There are three (3) types of “Apprenticeships” – Timed-Based; Competency-Based; and, Hybrid.

1. Time-Based Programs that require a Set Number of Logged Hours to Graduate;
2. Competency-Based Program Progress that is measured by Performance and Competency Goals/Requirements set by the Program; or,
3. Hybrid Courses which are a Combination of Both!



What Unions and Apprenticeship Program Opportunities are available to Me?

Ironworkers Local 549, EMT Apprenticeship, WV Laborers' Union, Firefighters Apprenticeship, Central WV JATC & Roofers Local 242, Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, KML Carpenters Apprenticeship, Millwright Joint Apprenticeship Local 443 (Parkersburg), Parkersburg Joint Electrical Apprenticeship, Parkersburg Plumber Joint Apprenticeship, Steubenville Electrical Joint Apprenticeship, WV Sheet Metal Workers, WV Women Work, Charleston Electrical Joint Apprenticeship, Residential Carpentry (Charleston), and Many More!

Why are Apprenticeships so Important?

Apprenticeship Programs are beneficial to Employers and Participants. As a Participant, you can “earn while you learn” a trade. Apprenticeship Training allows you to use a “hands-on approach” while learning marketable skills. For Employers, Apprenticeships allow them to obtain skilled labor and grow their businesses more easily.

Is There Funding Available?

Yes! The Northern Panhandle Workforce Development Board, Inc. (NPWDB, Inc.) has Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding available! If you are determined eligible, we can cover Training Costs of up to \$5500 per program year for up to 2 program years of Apprenticeship Training. WIOA funding not only covers the cost of Training but it may also cover other Supportive Services. Call the NPWDB, Inc. Office for more information at: (304) 231-1170.

How Long do Apprenticeship Programs Take to Complete?

Most Apprenticeship Programs take anywhere from 1 -6 years to complete.

How Do I Get Started?

The Good News is.... Most Participants start out with Little to NO Experience. Call the Union associated with the Field of Training you are interested in for their Specific Intake Requirements.

NPWDB, Inc. / WIOA funded programs are equal opportunity programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

TTY/TDD 304-233-8091

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