

BUILDING TRADES

The Building Trades Program is designed to prepare students to enter directly into the trades or continue their education at a post-secondary level. This year we will be developing an articulation agreement with the Carpenters Local 23 and Local 280, which will grant pre-apprentice status to graduates who meet this higher skill standard.

The content of this program will provide extensive exposure to carpentry, masonry, and plumbing. The program is open to all students in their junior and senior years.

OBJECTIVES OF THE BUILDING TRADES PROGRAM

Depending on the phase a student seeks, the following objectives will be attained:

1. To develop skill in the use of tools and equipment common to the carpenter, mason, and plumber.
2. To develop an understanding of common structures, their parts, and relationships to each other.
3. To develop an understanding of the theoretical aspects of carpentry, masonry, and plumbing.
4. To develop positive work habits which include responsibility, to follow instructions, and the ability to cooperate with fellow workers.
5. To provide a foundation on which further skills may be developed by post secondary education or working directly in one of the trades or advanced apprenticeship training.
6. To develop job seeking skills necessary to succeed in the world of work.

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

The main activity for training is the building of a 1500 square foot modular home over the course of two years. The first year is divided into rough framing, masonry, and plumbing. The second year, the students will continue with plumbing and masonry on a select basis. However, there is an emphasis on siding, insulation, drywall, painting and trim carpentry.

SUGGESTED EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND & QUALITIES

1. Have average physical strength and dexterity.
2. Does not mind working outdoors (summer and winter).
3. Does not mind noise or dirt.
4. Enjoys physical activities.
5. Must have reading abilities to comprehend product information and instruction.
6. Must have mathematical aptitude to accomplish accurate measurements, and size computations.
7. Math - 9th grade - must be able to work with fractions, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and have an understanding of decimals.
8. Good attendance record.
9. Willingness to work.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Employment in this Building Trade cluster is at record levels. Still, the U.S. Department of Labor has estimated a shortage of 30,000 to 40,000 skilled trades people for the past two years. The average age of a residential tradesman is presently 49 years old. With the maturing workforce it is projected that more and more skilled trades people will be needed in the near future.

It should be noted that while a one-year program will limit employment opportunities, the two-year program provides a solid foundation for the following job opportunities.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of this program may qualify for the following jobs:

Rough Carpenter	Roofing Apprentice
Finish Carpenter	Remodeling Carpenter
Lumber Yard Sales	Drywall Installer
Mason's Apprentice	Estimator
Plumber's Apprentice	Painter's Apprentice
Carpenter's Apprentice	

CAREER ADVANTAGES

The construction industry offers a wide range of opportunities in many trade areas, including carpentry, masonry, and plumbing. The building trades are not generally affected by the rapid changes that occur in some of the high tech fields or some jobs that are lost to high technology invasion. The choices of jobs range from small home building operations through light commercial to heavy industrial construction. Opportunities exist in repair and remodeling or "old work" as well as new work. Tradesmen can be self-employed or work for large or small companies in either hands-on or supervisory capacities. The work may be indoors or out in the wide-open spaces, depending on the individual preference.

COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES

No current articulation agreements