Apprenticeship programs are an integral workforce development tool. They act as stepping stones that allow a person to move into a new career, even if that person has little or no work experience in their chosen field.

Apprentices get paid to learn on-the-job as they receive valuable training and mentorship, further their education and develop the deep skills and knowledge that will help them become valued professionals. The trouble is that not enough potential applicants know that these programs exist.

This guide was created to fill a need: residents of Southwest Washington and Oregon often struggle to find apprenticeship programs, and career counselors and other experts do not have one central list of apprenticeship opportunities.

My hope is that the apprenticeship opportunities in this guide can be used as a trusted resource by career counselors, CTE directors, teachers, service providers and apprenticeship applicants. It can also be used as a resource for businesses that are interested in starting their own apprenticeship programs.

We developed this guide with the help of partners and businesses in six counties—Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas.

At Workforce Southwest Washington, our mission is to invest in human potential, driving the growth and development of the region’s economy. We fund programs that help people get training and assistance to find a job or advance in their careers. Since 2003, we’ve invested more than $100 million to get people working and help businesses retain a skilled workforce. This guide is another investment toward that end—connecting people with good jobs for a thriving economy. We also help businesses recruit, train and retain a skilled workforce.

I wish you success as you take a step toward advancing your career and realizing your own potential.

Kevin Perkey
CEO, WORKFORCE SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON
In today’s uncertain employment market, people are looking for more than just a job. They are seeking engaging, fulfilling work that pays well and builds skills that will be needed long into the future. One of the best ways to invest in your own future is to apply for an apprenticeship.

An apprenticeship puts you on a clear path toward a long-term, sustainable career. In this guide, you’ll find apprenticeship opportunities offered by employers and organizations throughout Southwest Washington and Northwest Oregon. Traditional apprenticeships—in trades such as carpentry, masonry and plumbing—have long been popular, and you’ll find many construction and industrial trade apprenticeships listed here. There are many other fields that also offer apprenticeships. Are you interested in working in the manufacturing, technology, healthcare, transportation, food service, hospitality or retail sectors? Even if you currently have little or no experience, there are a wide variety of apprenticeships that can help you build the skills you need to break into your chosen field.

Why Seek An Apprenticeship?

$15 to $17 per hour
Apprentices get paid for their work, and often receive a free education. Paying tuition to attend college is one way to receive an education, but it doesn’t make sense for everyone. Apprenticeships offer something different: an earn-and-learn model that pairs paid on-the-job training with part-time classroom instruction. When you begin an apprenticeship, you’ll be working full-time and taking classes taught by experienced instructors who are eager to share their deep knowledge with a new generation of aspiring professionals. In many cases, this coursework is entirely free, and participants can receive credit from local community colleges.

As an apprentice, your starting pay will be above minimum wage—often between $15 and $17 per hour—and it is common for apprentices to receive a raise every six months as they learn new skills. You’ll typically receive close mentorship at work, along with a host of resources that can help you succeed.

After completing your training, you’ll be able to command a high-wage job in a high-demand field. As an accredited professional, you will have acquired valuable skills and knowledge and developed close relationships with other professionals and employers in your industry. What’s more, the credentials you earn are often transferable if you move to another state, which helps to ensure your long-term career success.

Not all apprenticeships are the same, so choose the path that works for you. Depending on the occupation, some apprenticeships require a five-year commitment, while others can be completed in two. All provide thousands of hours of on-the-job experience and include hundreds of hours of coursework. Though most programs require applicants to have a high school diploma or GED and be 18 years of age, there are also shorter pre-apprenticeship programs that are available to youth. These are typically not paid, but offer participants a chance to build experience and gain a leg-up as they prepare to apply for longer-term apprenticeships.

To learn more or find a program that works for you, explore this book or contact Melissa Boles, Workforce Southwest Washington: mboles@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3185.
More and more employers in a wide variety of fields—including construction, manufacturing, healthcare and technology—are recognizing the advantages of offering apprenticeships. Those who do see a significant return on their investment. According to one study, for each dollar that is invested in an apprenticeship, employers receive a benefit of $1.38. On top of financial benefits, employers see benefits in how well their employees perform at work and how long they stay in their jobs.

Train employees the way that you want them to be trained. It pays to have an efficient, well-trained workforce, as the skills and abilities of your employees greatly impact the success of your business. When you create an apprenticeship program, you have the opportunity to carefully assess and formalize training practices so that your employees are prepared to face complex challenges, make informed decisions and succeed in the workplace. If there are particular skills or knowledge that are essential for your business,
you can customize the training or educational components of an apprenticeship to match these specific needs. Cultivating a strong skills and knowledge base among a new generation of employees will ensure that your business continues to thrive well into the future, even as older, more experienced workers retire.

**Retain a skilled workforce.** Apprentices make a significant commitment to an employer in return for a good-paying position, along with comprehensive on-the-job training, mentorship and education. As an employer, you are also making a commitment to the personal growth and development of your apprentice. So it is no surprise that establishing this kind of long-term, trusting relationship means that workers are more engaged, have higher morale and are more productive. An apprenticeship can last as long as six years, and even after successful completion of this training, such workers are more likely to remain loyal to their employers.

**Invest in your community.** Apprenticeships make economic sense for many employers. And they also make sense for the long-term health of communities. When you invest in our workforce development system, you are investing in the economic growth, education and stability of your entire community—helping to ensure that family-wage jobs remain available to people from a diverse array of backgrounds.

**Knowledgeable partners will guide you every step of the way.** If your business is interested in offering an apprenticeship, Workforce Southwest Washington (and other workforce development boards) will be your partners. We see the benefits of keeping people in sustainable careers, and work with a network of community colleges, industry and labor groups, government agencies, community organizations and others to help develop apprenticeship programs that benefit both you and your employees.

**Whether you are interested in creating your own apprenticeship program, or partnering with an existing program, contact mboles@workforcesw.org to get started.**
Looking for additional apprenticeship opportunities?

Washington’s Department of Labor and Industries maintains a statewide online database of apprenticeship programs that is fully searchable.

Oregon’s Bureau of Labor and Industries also offers an online database of apprenticeship opportunities in that state.

Both of these resources offer a wealth of information, including apprenticeship descriptions, requirements and contact information for interested applicants.
Apprenticeship Listings
Manufacturing

Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC)
COUNTIES SERVED: Clark
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

AJAC’s Youth Apprenticeship program provides high school students with a unique opportunity to start and complete a registered apprenticeship before they graduate high school. AJAC’s Youth Apprenticeship program focuses on students developing real-world skills in the aerospace and advanced manufacturing industries. Youth Apprenticeship includes 2,000 hours of structured, paid on-the-job training plus tuition-free college classes for students to learn the theory behind what they do at their company. Youth Apprentices can earn on average $28,000 over the lifetime of the program.

CONTACT INFO
Tracey Turcotte
tturcotte@ajactraining.org
(206) 456-8860
www.ajactraining.org/youth/

Oregon Tradeswomen
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

With a focus on apprenticeship, Oregon Tradeswomen’s Pathways to Success program offers the Trades and Apprenticeship Career Class (TACC); a free, eight-week, pre-apprenticeship training class that helps students prepare for a high-skill, high-wage career in construction. TACC introduces a variety of trades through field trips, guest speakers, hands-on work days and other training opportunities. In addition to the core curriculum of this pre-apprenticeship program, students enrolled in the Trades and Apprenticeship Career Class have the option of extending their training commitment an additional one to three weeks to enroll in an Industrial Fabrication track or an Environmental Worker Training track.

CONTACT INFO
Brynn Hall
brynn@tradeswomen.net
(503) 335-8200
www.tradeswomen.net/pathways-to-success

Clackamas Community College
COUNTIES SERVED: Clackamas
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

Clackamas Community College offers five certificate apprenticeship programs: Inside Electrical, Limited Energy, Protective Signaling, Plumbing and Painting. Students enrolled in these apprenticeship programs will go to school in the evenings and work at a company in their trade during the day. Apprentices typically start their classroom hours in fall term once accepted in the program. These programs range from three to four years, depending on the related instruction requirement for a trade. After successful completion of the related instruction coursework and on-the-job hours, students have the opportunity to take the state licensure test for the journeyman card in their field.

CONTACT INFO
Leslie Donohue
ldonohue@clackamas.edu
(503) 594-3031
www.clackamas.edu/academics/departments-programs/apprenticeship-cc
Construction

Constructing Hope
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

The 10-week Constructing Hope Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program helps participants develop an understanding of apprenticeship opportunities available in the construction trades. Each participant will gain entry-level skills, familiarity with trade tools, terminology and basic principles and knowledge of various career opportunities.

CONTACT INFO
Pat Daniels
patd@constructinghope.org
(503) 281-1234
www.constructinghope.org

Frontier Apprenticeship & Training
COUNTIES SERVED: Clark
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

The Frontier Apprenticeship & Training is an apprenticeship program that will help train individuals seeking a career path as an electrician. It is a four-year program made up of OJT (On the Job Training), RSI (Related Supplemental Instruction) and safety instruction and training. Its purpose is to pass on field experience and knowledge to future generations of skilled trades workers as electricians. The pay scale provides significant increases every year worked, coupled with required RSI. This prepares apprentices to receive journey-level wages in a high-demand field with a limited supply of skilled workers that can’t be outsourced overseas.

CONTACT INFO
Adrian Bryce
adrian@frontierat.com
(360)892-4342
www.frontierat.com

Glazier Training Center
(Mount Hood Community College)
COUNTIES SERVED: Clackamas, Clark, Cowlitz, Multnomah, Wahkiakum, Washington
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union

This is a four-year Glazier apprenticeship program.

CONTACT INFO
Craig Feely
craig.feely@mhcc.edu
(503) 491-7359
www.glazierslocal740.org

International Union of Elevator Constructors Local 23
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union

These apprentices are responsible for assisting in the installation, maintenance and repair of passenger and freight elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters and moving sidewalks under the direction of a mechanic.

CONTACT INFO
(503) 252-5852

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Local 10
COUNTIES SERVED: Clark, Multnomah, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union

The Regional Training Center provides training to union members of Local 10 in Oregon and SW Washington. Introductory and advanced classes are available at no charge to painters, drywall finishers and traffic control painters who are enrolled in the apprenticeship or the journeyman programs.

CONTACT INFO
(503) 287-4856
www.rtctraining.org
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Local 1236
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union
This is a three or four-year floor covering apprenticeship program.

CONTACT INFO
jlawson@iupatdc5.org
(503) 481-3420
www.iupatdc5.org

NECA-IBEW Electrical Training Center
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union
The NECA-IBEW Electrical Training Center offers three apprenticeship programs. Each program trains apprentices in a licensed craft and registers them through the State of Oregon’s Apprenticeship Division. If you are interested in becoming a licensed journeyman in the electrical industry, please review what these programs offer to determine which is the right one for you.

CONTACT INFO
Rod Belisle
rbelisle@nietc.org
360-607-7044
www.nietc.org

Northwest Carpenter’s Institute (NWCI)
COUNTIES SERVED: Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit
This program offers a path toward becoming a union carpenter. Union carpenters who are ready to work can earn more than $70,000 a year. The health and retirement benefits they earn travel with them from job to job, so that they can provide for their families and build a secure future. From day one, apprentices in this program start earning—not owing. It is a four-year apprenticeship and participants can journey out with an associate degree.

CONTACT INFO
Lisa Marx
lmarx@nwci.org
(253) 350-4910
www.nwci.org

Northwest College of Construction
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit
Northwest College of Construction offers a wide variety of open shop apprenticeships, safety trainings, equipment certifications, leadership trainings and youth programs. Certifications include HazWOpER, OSHA-10, 1st Aid/CPR and more. Apprentices receive paychecks, hands-on career training in the crafts of their choice, free education and—upon completion—nationally-recognized industry certifications as master craftspeople.

CONTACT INFO
Bob Strader
bobs@nwcoc.com
(503) 256-7300
www.nwcoc.com
**NW Laborers**

**COUNTIES SERVED:** Clackamas, Clark, Cowlitz, Multnomah, Wahkiakum and Washington  
**ORGANIZATION TYPE:** Union

The NW Laborers Union Apprenticeship program is an extensive apprenticeship. It requires apprentices to go through 6,000 hours of OJT (on-the-job training) and 480 hours of RSI (related supplemental instruction). Apprentices do many different jobs in the construction field as union apprentice laborers. To apply for the program, an applicant needs to have a valid driver’s license, be 18 years of age or older, have at least completed the 10th grade and pass a drug test.

**CONTACT INFO**  
Jeremy Clevenger  
jcleveger@nwlett.org  
360 509 7459  
www.nwlett.org

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**Oregon Construction Craft Laborers Apprenticeship Program**

**COUNTIES SERVED:** Multnomah, Other  
**ORGANIZATION TYPE:** Union

The Oregon Construction Craft Laborers Apprenticeship Program is a partnership between the local laborers union and their partner employers. These organizations work together to train apprentices to be a part of a highly productive team and take pride in their work. The goal of your apprenticeship is to become a skilled construction craft laborer, one who knows many facets of the trade and will be an asset to both the union and the employer.

**CONTACT INFO**  
apprenticeship@osilaborerstraining.org  
(541) 745-5513  
www.oregonlaborers.com

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**Operating Engineers Local 701**

**COUNTIES SERVED:** Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Other  
**ORGANIZATION TYPE:** Union

Local 701 has separate programs for operating engineers and stationary engineers. High quality comprehensive training for Local 701 members is provided by full and part-time instructors who are journey-level operating and stationary engineers themselves. They’re the ones charged with making sure that current and future operating and stationary engineers are safe, skilled, productive and respectful of the equipment they use.

**CONTACT INFO**  
(503) 650-7701  
www.iuoe701.com

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**Oregon/SW WA Heat & Frost Insulators and Allied Workers Union Local 36**

**COUNTIES SERVED:** Clackamas, Clark, Cowlitz, Multnomah, Wahkiakum and Washington  
**ORGANIZATION TYPE:** Union

The Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers Union is committed to providing an adequate supply of trained insulation mechanics with the competitive skills necessary to meet industry needs now and in the future. The apprenticeship program emphasizes on-the-job training and classroom instruction, as well as the use of textbooks and other course materials that give participants a thorough knowledge of the trade. Apprentices are assigned to work for an insulation contractor, working side by side with experienced journeymen who understand both theory and practical application.

**CONTACT INFO**  
Dave Gamble  
coordinator@insulators36.org  
(503) 255-5124  
www.insulators36.org
OR & SW WA Roofers Apprenticeship
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union

This is a four-year program. Applicants need to be 18 years of age, have current photo identification and at least one of the following: a high school diploma, GED or NCRC (Bronze level). No experience is needed. Those who are interested can apply in person and then attend an orientation class. Employment can begin soon after the application process is complete.

CONTACT INFO
Joel Gonzalez
joelg@orswoofersapp.com
(503)546-4235
www.orswoofersapp.com

Pacific NW Carpenters Institute
(OR SWWA Carpenters JATC)
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union

As the premier educational institution for Carpenters in SW Washington and Idaho, PNCI is a nonprofit organization based in Portland, Oregon that provides apprenticeship and journey-level skill advancement training for many construction trades. These include carpenters, drywall finishers (tapers), interior/exterior specialists, millwrights, pile drivers and scaffold erectors. Its apprenticeship programs run between three to four years. Apprentices start at roughly 50 percent of the journey-level wage scale, which is about $40+/hr (depending on occupation). The program is industry-funded with no direct cost to participants.

CONTACT INFO
training@pnci.org
(503) 287-3708
www.pnci.org/overview.lasso

Pacific Northwest Carpenters Institute
COUNTIES SERVED: Clackamas, Clark, Cowlitz, Multnomah, Wahkiakum and Washington, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

Apprentices in this construction training program eventually progress to become journeyman carpenters. Students learn through an innovative program that combines classroom instruction with hands-on training. Apprentices earn “skill blocks” as they increase their knowledge of basic construction techniques. This training supplements the training and experience they get while working on-the-job with journeyman carpenters. Apprenticeship coordinators manage the programs and monitor the progress of the individuals who enter the various trade disciplines.

CONTACT INFO
(503) 287-3708
www.pnci.org
Pacific Northwest Ironworkers
Local 29 Apprenticeship
COUNTIES SERVED: Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union

The Local 29 Apprenticeship is a four-year program that provides on-the-job training in this field, including structural, reinforcing, ornamental, welding and rigging work. The actual length of training for each subject may vary depending on the predominant type of work available in the local area. Apprentices also receive at least 204 hours of classroom and shop instruction during every year of training. Subjects taken in the shop and classroom complement the hands-on training received in the field. These subjects include blueprint reading, care and safe use of tools, mathematics, safety issues, welding and oxy-acetylene flame cutting.

CONTACT INFO
Administrative Assistant
office@iw29appr.org
(503) 775-0877
www.iw29appr.org

Portland Workforce Alliance
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

The Portland Workforce Alliance offers half-day career day field trips for high school students to job sites, and an annual Career Expo for high school students. The organization can help connect students to apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships to improve students’ career readiness.

CONTACT INFO
Susan Nielsen
susan@portlandworkforcealliance.org
(503) 577-6177
www.portlandworkforcealliance.org

Portland Opportunities
Industrialization Center
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

This 12-week program is designed to prepare young adults for careers in construction and the trades. The program exposes trainees to paid, hands-on learning, classroom instruction, industry-recognized certifications, career exploration and planning.

CONTACT INFO
Charles Manigo
cmanigo@portlandoic.org
(971) 940-6437
www.portlandoic.org

Portland Youth Builders
COUNTIES SERVED: Multnomah
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit

The Portland Youth Builders’ 11-week pre-apprenticeship course for high school graduates ages 18-26 (aka “Bridge”) includes OSHA-10, 1st Aid/CPR and HazWOPER certificates. The organization also offers a 12-month pre-apprenticeship course with a GED diploma for youth ages 17-24 (aka “YouthBuild”).

CONTACT INFO
Jill Walters
jill.walters@pybpdx.org
(503) 286-9350
www.pybpdx.org

Roofer’s Union Local 49
COUNTIES SERVED: Clark, Multnomah, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union

The Oregon & SW Washington Roofers & Waterproofers’ apprenticeship is a training program dedicated to those entering or who have entered the industry. The majority of their training takes place on the roof with their employer. The first four weeks of
the first year focus on classroom training. The last three years combine classroom learning with mostly hands-on training.

**CONTACT INFO**
office@orswroofersapp.com  
(503) 546-4235  
www.orswroofersapp.com

**Sheet Metal Institute**
**COUNTIES SERVED:** Clark, Multnomah, Other  
**ORGANIZATION TYPE:** Nonprofit

The Sheet Metal Institute currently offers three apprenticeship programs: Sheet Metal Worker, Sheet Metal Service Technician and Residential Sheet Metal Worker. The Sheet Metal Worker Apprenticeship is a five-year program with the opportunity for advancements/raises every six months.

**CONTACT INFO**
info@sheetmetal-16.org  
(503) 257-1022  
www.sheetmetal-16.org

**UA Local 290**
**COUNTIES SERVED:** Clark, Multnomah, Other  
**ORGANIZATION TYPE:** Union

The UA Local 290 Apprentice & Journeyman Training Institute offers five-year apprenticeships for plumbers, steamfitters and HVAC/R service technicians. This apprenticeship program is appropriate for high school graduates looking for something other than the traditional college route, those looking for a career change or college graduates concerned with the difficult job market.

**CONTACT INFO**
Alexis Strickland  
alexis.strickland@290tech.edu  
(503) 691-5700  
www.ua290.org

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**Construction/Electrical**

**International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 48**
**COUNTIES SERVED:** Clackamas, Clark, Cowlitz, Multnomah, Wahkiakum, Washington  
**ORGANIZATION TYPE:** Union

The NIETC offers three apprenticeship programs. Each program trains apprentices in a licensed craft and sets them up through them through the State of Oregon’s Apprenticeship Division. Each of our three programs provide the apprentices with requirements needed to qualify for the Oregon State Journeyman license exam, and if applicable, its equivalent Washington Journeyman license exam. Our apprentices are prepared through classroom instruction and on-the-job training.

**CONTACT INFO**
Monica Hosler  
mhosler@nietc.org  
(503) 262-9991  
www.nietc.org
NW Line JATC
COUNTIES SERVED: Clark, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit
This program offers apprenticeships in two career categories: the outside line apprenticeship and line clearance tree trimming apprenticeship. The apprenticeship for line clearance tree trimming is a two-year commitment. The average starting wage for power line clearance tree trimmers is $25.80/hr and includes retirement and insurance benefits. The outside line construction apprenticeship is about a five-year commitment that requires travel. The starting wage for outside linemen averages $37/hr with retirement and insurance benefits.

CONTACT INFO
Keith Blakeslee
keith@nwlinejatc.com
(360) 831-3038
www.nwlinejatc.com

Power Line Clearance and Tree Trimmers JATC
COUNTIES SERVED: Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Nonprofit
These apprenticeship programs in line construction and tree trimming include 4,000 hours of experience/training.

CONTACT INFO
(360) 816-7100
www.nwpowerlinetreetrimmer.org/resources

Construction/Mason Trades
Bricklayers and Allied Crafts Local 1
COUNTIES SERVED: Clark, Multnomah, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union
This apprenticeship provides the most extensive career training in the industry. This is accomplished with on-the-job and related training to give apprentices a solid future in the trades. The program is offered at no cost. The apprenticeship offers programs in brick, block, stone, tile, masonry restoration, marble or terrazzo.

CONTACT INFO
office@bac1or.org
(503) 234-3781
www.bac1or.org

Cement Masons Local 555
COUNTIES SERVED: Clark, Multnomah, Other
ORGANIZATION TYPE: Union
This organization has a commitment to meet its partners’ manpower and training needs, and has developed a state-of-the-art training facility and instructor staff with over 50 years of collective experience. The apprenticeship curriculum includes hands-on rider trowel operation, blueprint reading and survey and construction math. It is free, provides college credit and includes 6,000 hours of training/experience.

CONTACT INFO
local555@cementmasons555.org
(503) 408-8555
www.cementmasons555.org

This guide was funded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant from the U.S. Department of Labor and provided through Career Connect Washington and Workforce Southwest Washington. Career Connect Washington and Workforce Southwest Washington are equal opportunity employers/programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Washington Relay 711.