

# Memo

To: Individual interested in apprenticeship training programs

From: Roslyn Wade, Director of Apprenticeship  
Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry

Subject: **List of occupations with apprenticeship training programs**

The attached list of apprenticeable occupations is not a complete list. It is a list of occupations that have been used to train Minnesotans to become skilled, productive, contributing employees for more than 60 years.

An occupation is apprenticeable if: the occupation requires at least 2,000 hours of hands-on training to learn essential skills; the training does not overlap or intermingle with other similar occupations; it commands a reasonable wage, teaches the employee higher-level skills than entry level positions require and the occupation leads to continuous employment for the graduated apprentice. In addition to the hands-on training given to the apprentice, there must be 144 hours of related supplemental educational training during each calendar year of the program.

Depending on the level of learning difficulty of the occupation, a program may be as short as 2,000 hours or as long as 10,000 hours. However, in Minnesota most programs average between 6,000 and 8,000 hours in length. The total supplemental related training required for the average programs is 432 to 576 hours, respectively, during the length of the program.

Employers need well-trained people. Apprenticeship provides the mechanism to ensure employers have well-trained, safe and motivated employees. Many times employers are unable to hire employees that have the skills necessary to step right into a position and be fully productive on that job. Apprenticeship training allows a new-hire to be placed in a training situation where they will learn the job from the bottom up. In some cases, no prior knowledge of the job is required — apprenticeship training is structured so the apprentice learns the basic skills and builds upon those basic skills each day of the training program, until completion. Upon graduation, the employee is considered a productive and loyal employee who, as history has shown, is more motivated, more conscientious and safer.

Finally, it is essential that the employer and the apprentice commit themselves to the training necessary to ensure a successful training program. In the DLI Apprenticeship Unit's *Rules of Procedures*, the roles and responsibilities of both the apprentice and the employer are identified. For further apprenticeship information, call (651) 284-5090 or toll-free 1-800-342-5354. Apprenticeship programs are beneficial and useful for both union and nonunion employers' needs.

**Remember, good apprenticeship training works for everyone.**

# Apprenticeable occupations in Minnesota

## Construction industry

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Asphalt and paving equipment operator	Millwright
Boilermaker	Operating engineer (equipment operator)
Bricklayer	Painter and decorator
Building maintenance repairer (set-up)	Pile driver
Carpenter	Pipefitter
Cement mason	Pipefitter, gas and oil
Concrete pump operator	Pipefitter, refrigeration and air conditioning
Construction driver	Plaster tender
Drywall finisher	Plasterer
Electrical estimator	Plumber
Electrician (construction)	Roofer
Floor coverer	Sanitary well construction
Glass worker	Sheet metal worker
Glazier	Sign hanger
Heat and frost insulator	Sprinkler fitter
Iron worker	Terrazzo worker
Laborer	Tile finisher
Lather	Tile setter
Marble finisher	Tuckpointer, cleaner, caulker
Marble setter	Universal equipment operator

## Plant maintenance

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Boiler operator	Pipefitter, maintenance
Building maintenance repairer	Plumber, maintenance
Electrician, maintenance	Predictive maintenance inspector
Lift station operator	Sheet metal worker, maintenance
Locomotive, mechanic	Sheet metal worker, railroad
Machinist, composing room	Slide forming machine technician
Machinist, linotype	Stationary engineer
Machinist, maintenance	Waste water treatment plant operator
Machinist, printing press	Water and gas maintenance person
Machinist, railroad	Water mechanic
Maintenance, mechanic	Water treatment plant operator
Millwright, maintenance	Water works operator
Operating engineer (diesel)	Welder
Operating engineer (steam)	

## Graphics arts industry

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Auto stitching and tipping machine operator	Lithographer, photo contact operator
Bookbinder	Lithographer, platemaker
Collator operator	Lithographer, stripper
Color matcher and ink maker	Lithographer, stripper layout artist
Composing room technician	Lithographer, web fed
Compositor	Offset camera person, stripper and platemaker
Cutting machine operator	Offset press feeder
Electronic pre-press operator	Offset press operator
Engraver, hand	Paper stock cutter
Envelope machine adjuster	Photoengraver
Envelope paper cutter	Press feeder
Folding machine operator	Press operator, cylinder and platen
Gathering machine operator	Press operator, flexographic label
Lithographer, class "C"	Press operator, silkscreen semi-automatic
Lithographer, color artist	Press operator, steel die
Lithographer, color camera person	Press operator, web fed
Lithographer, duplicator operator	Printer, class "C"
Lithographer, half-tone and line photographer	Printer, job shop
Lithographer, offset press feeder	Sheeting machine operator
Lithographer, offset press operator	

## Power trade industry

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Cable splicer	Plant attendant
Electric meter person	Power lineworker
Electric shop mechanic	Power production repairer
Electrical mechanic	Radiation production specialist
Electric meter tester	Refuse derived fuel processor
Electrician, powerhouse	Relay technician
Electrician, substation	Repairer (steam)
Gas fitter	Rigger
Gas meter repairer	Rubber goods tester
Gas service person	Splicer mechanic
Gas supply mechanic	Steam heat utility person
Gas technician	Steamfitter-welder
Hazardous waster technician	Survey specialist
Hydro repairer operator	System field technician
Instrument and control specialist	Telecommunications technician
Maintenance insulator	Telephone systems wirer
Mapper	Tester, electric repair shop
Material control specialist	Tree trimmer
Meter mechanic	Trouble technician
Meter tester	Utility service person
Plant administrative specialist	Woodworker

## Manufacturing industry

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Assembler-welder	Heat Treater
Automatic screw machine operator	Hydraulics technician
Beveler	Iron shop person, arch and ornamental
Boat builder (wood)	Lighting designer
Buttermaker	Machinist
Cabinet maker/mill person	Machinist, tool room
Cheesemaker	Marker burner
Cloth cutter	Marking device mechanic
Coremaker	Mechanical assembler
Cupola tender	Metal display fabricator
Custom boot maker	Metal spinner
Die sinker	Metal trades pipefitter
Drafter, architectural	Miller
Drafter, design	Model maker
Drafter, electrical	Mold maker
Drafter, engineering	Molder
Drafter, mechanical	Monument maker
Drafter, ornamental iron	Neon tube bender
Drafter, structural steel	Patternmaker
Drafter, surveying	Pipe organ builder
Drafter, tool design	Pipe and tubing assembler
Drafting specialist	Printed circuit technician
Electrical cabinet and panel fabricator	Production sheet metal worker
Electrical motor repairer	Roll turner
Fabric cutter	Steel fabricator-fitter
Fabrication and layout person	Steel rule die maker
Fur cutter	Structural assembler
Furniture maker	Structural layout person
Furrier	Structural steel fabricator
Glassblower	Systems control technician
Glass machine operator	Template maker
Glass mold maker	Thermoplastic injection molder/supervisor
Glass worker (art)	Thermoplastic mold technician
Glass worker (stained)	Thermoplastic parts handler
Glass worker (warehouse)	Thermoplastic quality inspector
Granite cutter	Tool and die maker
Granite polisher	Tool and die repairer
Granite sandblaster	

## Service industry

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Aircraft and engine mechanic	Garage mechanic
Airframe and power plant mechanic	Gunsmith
Amusement device repair mechanic	Heavy equipment mechanic
Artificial limb mechanic	Highway equipment mechanic
Automotive body technician	Industrial truck mechanic
Automotive painter	Instrument repairer
Automotive technician	Internal combustion engine mechanic
Automotive upholsterer	Jeweler
Baker	Laboratory technician
Bracemaker	Landscape technician
Business machine mechanic	Locksmith
Camera repairer	Machinist, aircraft
Car repairer (railroad)	Machinist, automotive
Central office equipment person	Marine mechanic
Chef	Material handling equipment mechanic
Combination telephone line worker	Meat cutter
Commercial artist	Motor boat mechanic
Computer maintenance specialist	Motor engineering refrigeration compression mechanic
Computer operator	Musical instrument repairer
Contact lens technician	Optical trades
Cook	Photographer (commercial)
Custodial technician	Photographer (portrait)
Customer service representative	Punch press operator
Dental technician	Radio and television technician
Diesel technician	Refrigeration service mechanic
Display and lettering	Sausage maker
Electrician, railroad	Scale servicer
Electronics and control technician	Sewing machine mechanic
Electronics technician	Shoe and boot repairer
Electroplater and polisher	Sign painter
Engineering technician	Tailor
Farm tractor and equipment technician	Taxidermist
Farrier	Telephone servicer
Field engineering technician	Tool crib clerk and power tool repairer
Fire fighter	Trailer technician
Fuel handler	Truck and tractor technician
Fuel injection servicer	Watchmaker
Furniture finisher and repairer	Welder, job shop
Furniture upholsterer	

## Professional technical industry

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Administrative finance specialist	Interpreter, community
Administrative information specialist	Knowledge-based applications developer
Child care development specialist	Supported employment specialist
Finance technician	Translator, community
Information technician	