

WHAT ARE SKILLED TRADES?

Not all career paths require four years of college. If you enjoy working with your hands and are looking for a career with a comfortable salary, a trade career might be right for you. Skilled trade jobs require a specific skill set or training and many provide on-the-job training. Trade jobs are in high-demand and most of them you can be career ready in less than two years!

3 REASONS TO CONSIDER A CAREER IN THE TRADES!

1

WANT TO BE IN DEMAND + JOB SECURITY?

There are nearly **3 MILLION** unfilled trade jobs nationwide. Many industries are predicted to grow and are expecting to have many additional job openings in the coming years. With 75% of the baby boomer workforce on the verge of retirement in the next 5-7 years the demand for skilled workers will only increase!

2

WANT GREAT PAY WITHOUT COLLEGE DEBT?

The average pay for skilled trades is \$54k to \$67k per year, but with overtime, their wages can jump to \$76k-\$90k. A 4-year college graduate's salary is about \$43k-\$65k per year, but their cost of education is around \$140k! With a trades career, you complete a 2-year program at a fraction of the cost and start your career quicker!

3

WANT TO DO SOMETHING IMPORTANT?

Concern over our country's infrastructure has been mounting for years. Without adding more skilled tradespeople, it will only continue to worsen. Skilled trades are the backbone of America. Nothing runs without it! From manufactured car parts to submarines, skilled tradespeople built the things we count on every day!

MANY INDUSTRIES EMPLOY SKILLED TRADESPEOPLE

MECHANICAL TRADES:

Many mechanical trades require a certification of competency that spans two qualification levels. The first level is referred to as the journey level, and this requires an apprenticeship or experience that is equivalent. The second level is the master level. You must work as a journeyman for a minimum of a year and take a competency test to become a master. Taking classes at a vocational school provides additional knowledge, but it is possible to become certified through job training or an apprenticeship.

Examples:

- Auto mechanic
- HVAC installer
- Machinist
- Mechanical Drafter
- Locksmith
- Elevator Mechanic

INDUSTRIAL TRADES:

Industrial trades are jobs focused on manufacturing and technology. These careers involve designing, building and problem-solving. A high school diploma is usually the first requirement, but special skills, previous experience & technical education will set you apart. Like other trade positions, an apprenticeship can gain you entrance into this field. If hired, you can complete your apprenticeship requirements while employed. Working in an industrial trade job provides an opportunity for advancement.

Examples:

- Steam Engineer
- Cargo Freight Agent
- Welder/Ironworker
- Line Installer & Repairer
- Paving Equipment Operator
- Metal Fabricator

MEDICAL TRADES:

You don't have to be a doctor or nurse to work in the health-care industry. A certificate program or two-year degree from a community college will prepare you to work in a variety of health-care jobs. For example, becoming a dental hygienist or a radiologist only requires two years of college. An ultrasound technologist or certified nursing assistant only requires a certificate program. Medical trade positions are widely available and offer benefits, along with competitive compensation packages.

Examples:

- Dental Assistant
- Paramedic
- Respiratory Therapist
- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Ultrasound Technologist
- Certified Nursing Assistant

BUILDING TRADES:

Building trades span a variety of construction jobs, including carpentry, flooring, masonry and plumbing. If you want to begin work immediately and have some basic skills, you can land a job as a painter, landscaper or carpet installer with very little training or experience. As you learn the trade, you may decide to open your own business or move into a larger company. If you want to become an electrician, plumber, pipe fitter or welder, you will need to go to vocational school and complete an apprenticeship. For example, becoming an electrician requires learning the trade, becoming an apprentice and practicing alongside a certified electrician, prior to becoming licensed. This journey may take five years, but you will be paid while in training.

Examples:

- Carpenter
- Carpet installer
- Electrician
- Heavy equipment operator
- Insulation installer
- Landscaper
- Painter
- Plumber