



# HOW TO GET READY FOR A CAREER IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRADES

Construction careers provide a lifetime of learning new technologies and skills in a variety of settings. Here's how to get started on a path to a construction trades apprenticeship program.

## High school coursework

- Algebra II (at least 3 credits)
- Geometry
- Language arts (4 credits)
- Science (3 credits)
- Career and technology education
- Electives (art)
- Industrial arts

## Develop personal skills

- Be on time
- Work hard every day
- Follow directions
- Ask questions
- Open a bank account
- Get a driver's license
- Have reliable transportation
- Volunteer



## Stay physically active

- Exercise regularly
- Lift weights
- Eat healthy foods
- Drink plenty of water
- Be drug-free

## Research careers and opportunities

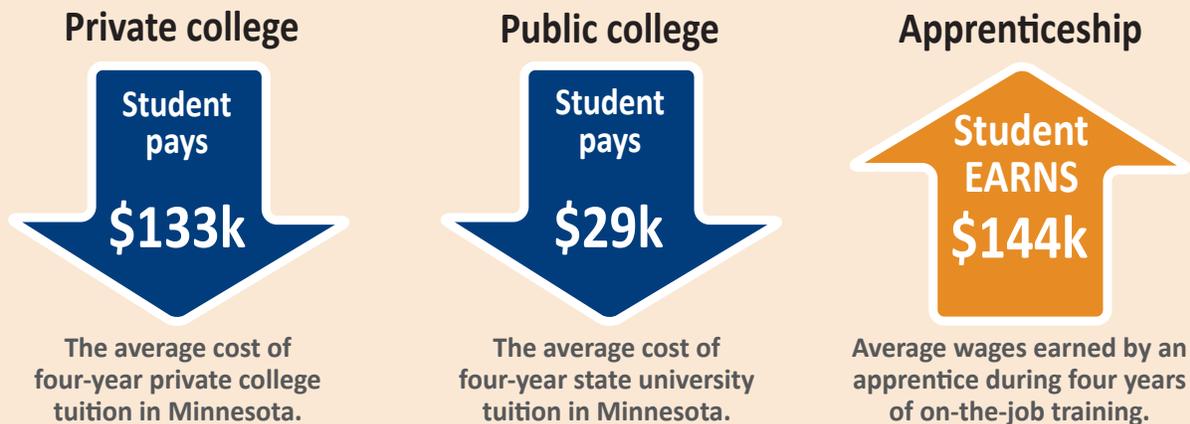
- Visit [www.constructioncareers.org](http://www.constructioncareers.org)
- YouTube: "Apprenticeship: Building Your Career"
- "A Career in the Trades: Debunking the Myths"
- Volunteer with groups like Habitat for Humanity or Urban HomeWorks



# IS APPRENTICESHIP THE RIGHT CHOICE?

Minnesota's apprenticeship system offers an opportunity for a person with limited job skills to enter a high-wage industry, gaining experience and salary increases through on-the-job training and classroom instruction.

The earn-while-you-learn system enables individuals to move to the top of the wage scale in three to five years.



## APPRENTICESHIP CAREER TRACKS

Apprenticeship programs offer skills in a wide variety of careers. Some of the most common include:

Heat and frost insulators  
Operating engineers  
Construction craft laborers  
Cement masons  
Limited energy installers  
Electricians  
Carpenters  
Ironworkers

Millwrights  
Plumbers  
Pipefitters  
Plasterers  
Teamsters  
Tile setters  
Boilermakers  
Sprinklerfitters

Floor coverers  
Elevator workers  
Sheet metal workers  
Roofers and waterproofers  
Sign and display installers  
Bricklayers  
Painters, wallcoverers, drywall installers



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**LABOR & INDUSTRY**