

Apprenticeship

Offered at the Green Bay, Marinette, and Sturgeon Bay campuses. For information in Green Bay: (920) 498-5444.
For information in Marinette: (715) 735-9361. For information in Sturgeon Bay: (920) 746-4900.
Toll-free: (800) 422-NWTC, ext. 5444.

What is Apprenticeship?

It is an earn-while-you-learn program of on-the-job training combined with related classroom instruction that is normally provided by the district technical college.

As an apprentice, students are trained under a written training agreement called an indenture. While indentured, the employer agrees to teach the student the skills of the trade and the apprentice agrees to learn the skills involved. Other conditions of the indenture, such as the length of training, amount of pay, the rate of periodic pay increases, and the related classroom hours are covered. An apprenticeship is one of the best ways to enter a skilled occupation.

What is Involved?

An indentured apprentice works a regular workweek, is paid apprentice wages, and also attends paid-related instruction on a regularly scheduled basis. The apprentice's progress in both the on-the-job training and classroom instruction is evaluated and appropriate records are maintained.

There is no discrimination in any phase of apprenticeship employment and training.

Upon completion of the training program, apprentices will receive a certificate from the state of Wisconsin certifying each one as a completed apprentice. To protect the interests of all parties concerned and to assist in the enforcement of the various aspects of the agreement, the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards, is given the responsibility of overall supervision of the apprenticeship program.

Apprenticeship is not an on-demand program. All applicants must apply to the programs through the respective committee or sponsor. The Apprenticeship Office at NWTC can assist with the application process. Contact the Apprenticeship office at: (920) 498-5682, or check out our website at: www.nwtc.edu [Apprenticeship].

What are the Qualifications for an Applicant?

The basic requirement is that the applicant be at least 16 years of age. In all cases, however, the applicant is also required to be a high school graduate or to have passed the high school equivalency test. Applicants are also required to take the Academic Skills Assessment test which is provided at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College or other trade-specific exam by committee.

Most employers and/or joint apprenticeship committees have approved selection standards with more exacting requirements. In some trades, the requirements for the applicant include one or two years of high school math. Some trades require that the applicant take an aptitude test.

How Long Does it Take?

The length of the apprenticeship depends upon the skilled occupation involved. Apprentice programs vary from two to five years. The average program is four years in length.

What Related Classroom Instruction is Involved?

The number of classroom hours range from 288 hours to 1,008 hours of paid-related instruction, depending upon the skilled occupation, with the average being 400 hours. This related instruction teaches the apprentice the theory behind the skills learned on the job. Apprentices are required to attend night school on their own time and at their own expense.

Where is the Related Training Offered?

The Clayton J. Smits Apprenticeship Center of Northeast Wisconsin Technical College offers related classroom instruction at the Green Bay, Marinette, and Sturgeon Bay campuses.

What is an Apprenticeable Occupation?

An apprenticeable occupation is clearly identified and commonly recognized throughout an industry. It involves manual, mechanical, or technical skills and knowledge that require a minimum of 2000 hours of on-the-job work experience. It also requires an average of 400 hours of paid-related classroom instruction to supplement the on-the-job training. The state of Wisconsin has recognized more than 300 apprenticeable occupations. Some of the occupations or fields served by NWTC are:

Carpenter
Early Childhood Education
Electrician
 Construction Electrician
 Residential Electrician
 Voice Data Video Technician
Electrical/Instrumentation
Industrial Electrician
Foundry/Pattern Maker
Instrumentation
Machinist
 Regular Machinist
 Maintenance Machinist
 Tool & Die
Mason
 Bricklayer
 Block Layer
 Cement Finisher
 Plasterer
 Tile Setter
Machine Repair
Mechanical Adjuster
Maintenance Mechanic (Millwright)
Industrial Maintenance Mechanic
Industrial Pipefitter
Plumber
Sheet Metal
Steamfitter
ABC HVAC

