

The Indiana Union Construction Industry's Joint Apprenticeship Programs

What are joint apprenticeship programs?

These programs are managed by Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committees (JATCs) that consist of an equal number of contractors and union representatives. Through joint management, contractors and unions are able to adapt the curriculum and training to ensure the contractor's workforce can meet the changing needs of the construction industry. This curriculum offers a unique educational opportunity in which students gain specific skills and knowledge needed for a trade (e.g. pipefitting, boilermaker or carpentry.) Training combines an average of 2,000 hours of on-the- job training hours plus 160 classroom hours per year.

How many years does it take to complete a joint apprenticeship program?

Apprenticeships usually last four years, but may range from three to five years. In terms of time, it is the same investment as a college education. In terms of financial impact, it does not even compare. Tuition at a local state college averages \$20,000 for a four-year degree. On the other hand, a typical apprentice entering the program will EARN \$27,000 per year, plus health insurance and pension benefits. It's the original earn while you learn program.

Who pays for the joint apprenticeship program?

In joint apprenticeship programs, the only cost to the student is the price of the books, with no tuition fees. Apprenticeship programs in the union construction industry are unique because they are jointly funded by the unions and the contractors and therefore, translate into a FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIP for students interested in a career in the union building trades. It is important to note no tax dollars are used to fund these apprenticeship programs.

Can a joint apprenticeship program lead to a college degree?

Yes! The Indiana Union Construction Industry developed an initiative with Ivy Tech Community College that offers apprentices the opportunity to obtain an associates degree. In addition to the classroom training in the apprenticeship programs, apprentices take supplementary Ivy Tech courses to round out the degree.



The associates degree from Ivy Tech can be used as a foundation to pursue a bachelors' degree, or even a master's degree. A joint apprenticeship program is an excellent way of earning a college degree without accumulating thousands of dollars in student loan debt.

The Indianapolis Star recently reported Indiana is below the national average (38.7 percent) and lowest in the Midwest in high educational attainment. Our State ranks 41st in the country in this arena. As Indiana trails below the national average in college graduation rates, our state must focus on educational opportunities that can provide an immediate impact on the quality of life for Hoosiers. The Indiana Union Construction Industry is one of those educational opportunities.

What types of job opportunities are available in the union construction industry?

Today, there are over 4,000 union contractors employing more than 75,000 union tradesmen in the state of Indiana. Experts are predicting an expected shortage in construction workers over the next few years. Today's apprentices will be rewarded with a wide variety of job opportunities.



The Indiana Union Construction Industry Apprenticeship Programs By The Numbers

Apprenticeship Training Programs in the Indiana Union Construction Industry: There are **over 60 apprenticeship training locations** statewide. Trades range from Carpenters, Ironworkers, Plumbers and Pipefitters, Electricians, Roofers, Laborers, Cement Masons and Elevator Constructors.

Dollars invested each year in training in the Indiana Union Construction Industry: In the 2011-2012 reporting year, just short of **\$42 million dollars**were invested in training by jointly managed apprenticeship programs in the Indiana Union Construction Industry.

Apprentices Enrolled in the Indiana Union Construction Industry:

According to data released in November 2017, by the U.S. Department of Labor: Employment and Training Administration Office of Apprenticeship, there were a total number of **9,995 apprentices** were enrolled in construction apprenticeship programs in the state of Indiana.

- **7,759 of all construction apprentices** in the state of Indiana were enrolled in **Union** training programs. This is **77.9% of all construction apprentices** in the State.
- Minority Participation in the Indiana Union Construction Industry: 19.4%
 of all Indiana Union Construction Industry apprentices were
 minorities.
- Veteran Participation in the Indiana Union Construction Industry: 8.4%
 of all Indiana Union Construction Industry apprentices were
 veterans.
- Female Participation in the Indiana Union Construction Industry: 4.8% of all Indiana Union Construction Industry apprentices were women.



Ivy Tech Community College Associates' Degree Partnership

Since 1993, **13,000** apprentices from the Indiana Union Construction Industry have earned an Associate's Degree in Applied Science from Ivy Tech. This two-year degree is earned at no additional cost to the student.