Trade Union Information
Job Description: Bricklayers construct and repair walls, partitions, arches, fireplaces, chimneys, and other structures from building materials such as brick, structural tile, concrete cinders, glass, gypsum, and terra cotta. They may work on commercial or industrial buildings, apartments or homes.

Bricklayers use a trowel to spread a layer or “bed” of soft mortar that serves as a base and binder for brick. They apply mortar to the end of the brick, and position it in the mortar bed. They tap the brick to level and align it, allowing specified mortar thickness, remove excess mortar, and finish the joints with a “jointer”.

Tools used by Bricklayers include chisels, trowels, jointers, brickhammers, power brick and cutting saws, plumb bobs, mason’s levels, rule and square. They also understand and work from blueprints.

Working Conditions: Much of the work is done outdoors and depends on suitable weather conditions. Bricklayers are on their feet all day and do considerable stooping and bending, climbing, lifting, reaching and carrying. Often they must work from scaffolds high above the ground. Possible injuries include falls or being struck by falling objects.

Interest and Temperament: Bricklaying requires careful and accurate workers who can observe fairly close tolerances, limits and standards. Bricklayers should enjoy working with their hands.
Recommended High School Courses: Algebra, Geometry, General Science, Mechanical Drawing.

Terms of Apprenticeship: 4 years on the job training. Related classroom instruction.

General Qualifications:
# Legal Working Age.
# High School Education or equivalent.
# U.S. Citizen, or in the process of naturalization.
# Above average manual dexterity.
# Good eyesight.
# Reside within the jurisdiction of Bricklayers Local Union #9 for 3 years prior to application.

Additional Requirements of the JAC:
# Copy of high school diploma or GED.
# Personal interview.
# Physical examination after selection.

Contact: Bricklayers & Allied Crafts
Local Union No.9 of PA

2502 Monroeville Blvd.

Monroeville, PA 15146

Mr. Edward Frieze, Co–ordinator

Tel (412) 825–0923
Fax (412) 825–0954
CARPENTERS
Commercial

Residential

Heavy Highway

Job Description: CARPENTERS perform work on commercial building, houses, bridges, and road overpasses. They perform work which is basic to most building construction. They construct, erect, install and repair structures and fixtures of wood, metal, plywood and wallboard. They erect framework in buildings, including joist and decking, partitions, stairs and rafters. CARPENTERS also install wood paneling, windows, door frames, doors and hardware, cabinets, and various types of trim moldings. CARPENTERS also build the form work for the placing of concrete. This includes flat work, columns, beams, decks, stairs, bridge abutments, and overpasses.

CARPENTERS read sketches, building plans, and blueprints. They perform the building layout using builders levels, transits, and lasers.

CARPENTERS use a variety of hand tools, including hammers, saws, drills, screw guns, routers, planes, and power miter boxes. They must use assorted types of materials and assorted types of fasteners, including nails, screws, dowels, or glue.

Working Conditions: CARPENTERS work both indoors and outdoors, and the work is physical by nature. During the course of the day a carpenter does a lot of walking, kneeling, stooping, carrying, lifting, and climbing. Sometimes the work depends upon suitable weather conditions.
Interest and Temperament: Anyone interested in the carpentry field must be able to work closely with others, follow instructions from a supervisor, and work on a job site as part of a team. Applicants should possess average or above average manual dexterity, coordination, and balance. You should enjoy working with your hands, be able to adapt to a variety of working conditions, must have a sense of pride in your work, and should apply yourself diligently in order to become a skilled craftsman.

Recommended High School Courses: General math, geometry, mechanical drawing, blueprint reading, drafting, carpentry and cabinet making.

Related Trades: The Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) also provides apprenticeships for anyone interested in the following carpentry related trades: Floor Layer, Lather, Mill/Cabinetmaker, Millwright, and Pile Driver.

Terms of Apprenticeship: 4 year apprenticeship. On-the-job training. Minimum of 144 hours of related classroom and shop instruction per year. Journeyman certificate upon completion. Credit at Community College of Allegheny County towards an Associate Degree in Construction Supervision or Construction Estimating.

Admission Requirement of the J.A.T.C.: 
# Minimum age of 18.
# High School diploma or equivalent.
# Pass the qualifying test.
# Able to do 2 weeks of Pre-Job Training.
# Doctors statement of physical ability.
# Scholarship Loan Agreement.
# Drug testing.
# Valid drivers license.
# Dependable transportation.

Contact: Carpenters J.A.T.C. of Western PA
222 Third St. Neville Island PA, 15225

Telephone (412) 262-1830
Fax (412) 262-7836
CEMENT MASON'S
Union Local 526
Cement Masons Working Conditions: Cement Masons smooth and finish the exposed concrete surfaces on projects including walls, floors, steps, sidewalks, driveways and roads. Although they are involved in home building, the bulk of the work is in commercial and industrial building.

Cement Masons spread freshly poured concrete to a specified depth and workable consistency, and level, smooth, and shape the surface. They remove rough or defective spots, repair holes or cracks, and grind surfaces to smooth or designed finishes.

Tools used by Cement Masons include trowels, floats, screeds, grinders, troweling machines, saws, bush hammers, jointers, and edgers.

The Cement Masons’ knowledge of their materials is essential to the quality of work. They must know the characteristics of cement and concrete mixes and must recognize by sight and touch what is happening as the cement cures.

Working Conditions: Much of the work is done outdoors and depends on suitable weather conditions. The work is active and strenuous and the Cement Mason is under constant pressure to smooth the cement before it sets. The worker is required to stoop, bend or kneel most of the time. They must often lift heavy, wet cement.
Possible injuries include lung and skin irritation from working with cement, and injuries from falling objects.

Interest and Temperament: Cement Masons should receive satisfaction from a job well done, like hard work, be able to work without close supervision, adapt to a wide variety of working conditions, and be willing to stay on the job until it is finished.

Recommended High School Courses: General math, algebra I, geometry, mechanical drawing

Terms of Apprenticeship:
# 3 years on-the-job training
# related classroom instruction

General Qualifications:
# legal working age
# High School education or equivalent
# reside within the jurisdiction of Cement Masons Local Union #526
# manual dexterity, eye–arm coordination
# good physical condition

Admission Requirements of the JAC:
# qualify on aptitude test administered by the PA Employment Service
# personal interview
# union initiation fees and dues

Contact: Cement Masons
A.J. Furlan Bldg, 2606 California Ave.

Pittsburgh PA, 15212

Mr. Raymond Furtivo, Coordinator

Telephone (412) 761–6310, Fax (412) 761–8211
INSULATORS & ASBESTOS WORKERS
Local 2, Pittsburgh PA

Job Description: The work of the Insulator/Asbestos Worker includes the insulation of both industrial and commercial mechanical systems (i.e. piping, boilers, duct work, storage tanks, and equipment) for the purpose of energy savings; burn protection; and to control system heat transfer and condensation. Industrial applies to power plants, chemical process plants, refineries, steel mills, etc... Commercial applies to schools, hospitals, offices, etc...

The Insulator/Asbestos Worker may also be state licensed for asbestos abatement. The Insulator/Asbestos Worker works with many types of insulating materials, mastics, and vapor barriers. Work is done from blueprints, using a wide variety of power tools; also cutting, leveling and fastening tools.

Working Conditions
Work is done indoors and outdoors, sometimes in noisy and dirty surroundings. Jobs are many times located in areas not easily accessible by public transportation. Work is active and strenuous; occasionally in cramped, uncomfortable conditions; and occasionally on scaffolds high above the ground. Possible injuries include falls, cuts, and exposure to hazardous dusts and chemicals. Personal protection equipment, such as, respirators, safety glasses, hearing protection, fall-arrest systems, etc... is sometimes required.

Recommended High School Courses
Algebra, geometry, mechanical drawing, and blueprint reading

Terms of Apprenticeship
# 18 years of age as of the date of application.
# High School graduate or GED.
# Physically fit to perform the work of the trade.
# Reside within the geographic jurisdiction* of Local No. 2 for at least one year prior to application.
# Submit a non-refundable processing and testing fee.
# For further information, call the JAC office at (724) 695–3902.

Admission Requirements of the JAC
# Qualify on a written test established by the Joint Apprenticeship Committee.
# 2 1/2 points are added for each successive year that an applicant retakes the test up to a maximum of ten points.
# Personal interview.
# Agree to abide by the Joint Apprenticeship Committee Standards and Rules.
# Pass a certified drug test.
# Attend classroom instruction on personal time.

Contact: Insulator & Asbestos Workers Local 2 JAC
1057 Moon–Clinton Road, P.O. Box O
Clinton, PA 15026

William P. Birmingham, Training Director
Telephone (724) 695–3902  Fax (724) 695–3902

*Geographic jurisdiction of Local No. 2 by counties:

IRONWORKERS
Local 3, Pittsburgh
Job Description: Iron workers fabricate, erect, assemble, and install fabricated structural metal products in industrial, commercial or large residential building. Iron workers are categorized according to four different skills.

Structural Iron workers erect the steel framework of bridges, building, and other structures, including metal storage tanks and overhead crane runways.

Riggers and machine movers set up and rig hoisting equipment for erecting and dismantling structural steel frames and for moving heavy construction machinery and equipment. Ornamental Iron workers assemble and install grills, canopies, metal stairways, floor gratings, iron ladders, metal window sashes and doors, decorative iron railings and gates, and lamp posts. Reinforcing Iron workers set steel bars in concrete forms to reinforce buildings and bridges.

Working Conditions: Possible injuries include falls, burns, cuts and abrasions. The injury rate is higher than for construction as a whole. Most of the work is done outdoors and is carried on year-round except in severe weather. There is much sitting, walking, climbing and balancing. Work is done frequently in high places; nets, safety belts and scaffolds are used.

Interest and Temperament: Iron Workers should receive satisfaction from tangible productive results and be able to work to prescribed close tolerances and rigid standards. They must not be afraid of heights, have an acute awareness of danger involved, and assume responsibility for fellow workers.
Recommended High School Courses: General math, algebra, geometry, physics, mechanical drawing, welding

Terms of Apprenticeship:
# 4 years on-the-job training
# related classroom instruction

General Qualifications:
# Minimum age of 18
# High School diploma or GED certificate and transcript of high school records
# birth certificate
# doctor’s certificate

Admission Requirements of the JAC:
# valid PA drivers’ license
# reside within the jurisdiction of Iron Workers Local #3
# qualification on aptitude test administered by JAC

Contact: Ironworkers Local J.A.C.
2201 Liberty Ave.
Pittsburgh PA, 15222–4501
Mr. Frank Long, Coordinator
Telephone (412) 471–4535
email us at: iwjac@aol.com
LABORERS

Job Description: Laborers are involved with most phases of the construction industry. They work with scaffolding, soil compaction, transit and level, trenching & shoring, traffic control, air tool operation and many other assigned tasks. Their physical skills and common sense are extremely valuable to the contractor in running a smooth building operation. Construction craft laborers receive on-the-job training and classroom courses from experienced instructors in construction language, care and safe use of tools of the trade, O.S.H.A. and First Aid/CPR.

Laborers will become skilled through training and certification for asbestos and hazardous waste removal operations and lead abatement, in addition to working in such jobs as asphalt rakers, concrete placement, mason tenders, demolition, cutting torch operators, line and grade, pipelaying, blue print reading, and confined space procedures.

Laborers who become experienced in the various classes of semi-skilled and skilled work and have the qualifications of reliability and leadership, can advance to be a laborer foreman, general foreman and site superintendent.

Working Conditions:Most of the work is performed outdoors. The work is frequently in high places, so the Laborer must not be afraid of heights. The work is physically demanding. The Laborer should be in reasonably good health.

Terms of Apprenticeship:4000 hours on-the-job training and a minimum of 288 hours of related classroom instruction.

General Qualifications:
# 18 years of age
# High School diploma or GED
# Valid Pennsylvania Driver's License

Contact:
Western PA Laborers' Education and Training Fund

317 Deer Creek Rd.

Saxonburg PA, 16056

Michael A. Laquatra, Apprenticeship Coordinator
James Kempinski, Training Director

Telephone (724) 352-2224, Fax (724) 352-5011, Toll free 1-800-442-8868
OPERATING ENGINEERS

Job Description: Operating Engineers are responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of heavy construction equipment such as cranes, backhoes, loaders, scrapers, bulldozers, rollers, etc.... used in the construction of buildings, factories, roads, dams, power plants and bridges.

Working Conditions: Operating Engineers work outdoors in any kind of weather, under rough and sometimes hazardous conditions. Public transportation is seldom available or suitable because of job location and varied working hours; therefore, dependable transportation and a valid drivers’ license are essential.

Interest and Temperament: Operating engineers should enjoy working with machines, be mechanically inclined, able to do routine, repetitive work as part of a team, able to learn correct safety habits and be self-disciplined.

Recommended High School Courses: General math, science, physics, reading

Terms of Apprenticeship:
# 4 years on-the-job training
# minimum accumulation of 4000 on-the-job training hours
# 5 to 7 weeks each year classroom and training site time
# apprentices will be paid at the negotiated apprenticeship rate for on-the-job training based on the class of machine being operated

Basic Requirements:
# Applicant must be a minimum of 18 years of age at time of indenture.
# Prior to final acceptance, a doctor’s certificate of examination will be required. A certified drug test will be required before indenture, at the Program’s expense.

# Applicant must reside within the jurisdiction of Operating Engineers Local #66, and have been a resident for at least six (6) months.

# Applicant must have a high school diploma or GED.

# Applicant must have a valid PA or OH drivers’ license and have dependable transportation.

# Applicant must submit a non-refundable processing and testing fee.

Applicant must pass all phases of various written and manual job-related tests as required.

Contact: Western PA Operating Engineers JATC

107 Operators Way

New Alexandria PA, 15670-9602

Mr. Steve Columbus, Apprentice Administrator

Telephone (724) 668-2244, Fax (724) 668-8146

For more information please visit the Western PA Operating Engineers website at: www.wpaoperators.org
PLASTERERS
Local 31, Pittsburgh
Job Description: Plasterers apply and smooth wet plaster to interior walls and ceiling to form fire resistant and relatively soundproof surfaces which may then be decorated. Plasterers apply spray fireproofing to steel in commercial buildings, do veneer plaster and tape seams and skim coat drywall when the entire board is covered.

Plasterers also apply stucco and synthetic stucco finishes to exterior of buildings and cast ornamental designs in plaster.

Plasterers first apply a scratch coat of plaster to metal or gypsum lath. They use a hawk, (a square piece of metal) to hold the wet plaster and a trowel to apply it. To obtain a level surface, they lay out a boarder, (screed) to the proper thickness and fill the area between them with one or two coats of plaster, they then level this surface with a long, straight tool called a feather edge.

Plasterer
After this surface has dried and set a smooth or decorated finish coat is applied. A plasterer’s work is varied in that each job presents different problems and conditions. Therefore, the work does not become monotonous. There are many different types of plastering, each of which must be learned and mastered, although a Plasterer may specialize in one class of work.

Working Conditions: Work is done both inside and out. Surroundings are usually dirty and dusty or wet, and workers are exposed to extremes of temperature. The work involves considerable standing and stooping.

Possible injuries may result from falls from ladders or scaffolds, or lime burns of the hands or eyes.
Recommended High School Courses: Advanced math, mechanical drawing and general shop.

Terms of Apprenticeship:
# minimum of 4 years or 4,000 hours
# must complete 2 years related courses (math and blueprint reading) as set by the Apprenticeship Committee
# must complete 4 year hands-on course at the Plasterers' Training center

General Qualifications:
# legal working age
# High School graduate or equivalent
# good physical condition

Admission Requirements of the JAC:
# Copy of high school diploma or equivalent
# doctor's statement of physical fitness
# initiation fee
# personal interview
# must have PA drivers' license and own transportation
# drug testing mandatory
# reside within Plasterers' Local 31's jurisdiction

Contact: O.P.&C.M.IA.
Plasters Local Union 31

2227 Jane St.

Pittsburgh PA, 15203

Mr. Daniel E. Stepano, Coordinator

Telephone (412) 481-9888, Fax (412) 481-9923, Toll free 1-800-628-7914

email us at: local31@gateway.net
ROOFERS

Job Description: Roofers install and remove roofs on buildings and other structures to make them waterproof and weatherproof. They may also waterproof or damp-proof walls and other building surfaces.

Roofers may also use materials such as: composition shingles, tile, slate, EPDM (ethylene, propylene, diene, terpolymer) membrane, PVC (polyvinyl chloride systems), butyl rubber, PIB (polyisobutylene), CPE (chlorosulfonated polyethylene), ECB (ethylene–copolymertitumen and anthracite dusts), modified bitumens. Roofers prepared some roofing materials by cutting roofing paper, shingles, or sheet to size and by punching, perforating, or shaping shingles, sheets, slate, or flashing. They align roofing material with the edge of the roof and overlap successive layers, fastening them with asphalt cement or nails.

To install composition roofs, the Roofer places overlapping strips of asphalt or impregnated felt on the roof, and applies coats of coal tar pitch or asphalt, to the surface.

To waterproof, the Roofer removes rough projections and roughs glazed surfaces, using hammer and chisel and applies waterproofing solution.

Tools used by Roofers include hammers, roofing knives, pincers, and caulking guns. Modern equipment has lessened the physical exertion formerly required.

Working Conditions: Work is done outdoors in all kinds of weather except when conditions are very severe. The Roofer does a great deal of climbing, kneeling, standing, and walking in high places. They must be alert to the danger of falling.
Interest and Temperament: A Roofer should have no fear of height, a good sense of balance, and a better-than-average sense of safety for himself and his co-workers. They should enjoy working with their hands and accept working outdoors, sometimes under unpleasant working conditions.

Recommended High School Courses: General math, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, general science, physics, mechanical drawing

Terms of Apprenticeship:

# 4 years on-the-job training
# related classroom instruction
# examination required at conclusion of apprenticeship

General Qualifications:

# legal working age
# high school education or equivalent
# good moral character
# good physical condition

Admission Requirements of the JAC

# qualification on aptitude test administered by the PA Employment Service or the Local JAC
# payment of initial fees
# physical examination
# personal interview

Contact: Roofers J.A.C.
PO Box 9314
Pittsburgh PA, 15225

Mr. Thomas Hayden, Training Coordinator

Telephone (412) 262–4220, Fax (412) 262–4222
Sheet Metal Workers
SHEET METAL WORKERS
Local 12, Pittsburgh

Earn while you learn:

Apprentices are placed with a Local #12 contractor. Local #12 territory covers 23 counties in Western Pennsylvania. Receive a percentage of the Journeyman’s rate with pay increases every six months. Health insurance coverage for apprentice and his family at no charge effective the first day of apprenticeship.

Attend 160 classroom hours in the first through fourth years and 123 classroom hours in the fifth year in one of our three schools in Harmarville, Erie or Johnstown. Classes include instruction in computers, manual and computer-aided drafting, math, HVAC, and sheet metal fabrication in industrial, architectural metals. Receive college credit through Community College of Allegheny County.

To be accepted into the program a candidate must:

# Sign-up March 2–6 or March 9–13 between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM.
# Be of legal working age.
# Have a high school diploma or equivalent.
# Have dependable transportation and a valid PA driver’s license.
# Take a written examination.
# Pass and pay for a portion of a physical examination and drug test.
# Interview with representatives of the Joint Apprenticeship Committee.

Contact: Sheet Metal Workers’
Local Union #12 J. A. C.
1200 Gulf Lab Rd.
Pittsburgh PA, 15238

Paul Beehner,
Coordinator of Apprentice Training

Telephone (412) 828–1386
Job Description: Pipefitters assemble, install and maintain pipes to carry water, steam, compressed air, gas, and fluids needed for processing, manufacturing, heating and cooling. They work on high and low pressure pipes, power stations, refrigeration or air-conditioning units, and heating systems.

Pipefitters work from blue prints to determine the layout of piping, valves, and fixtures. They measure, cut, bend, and thread pipes. They cut openings through ceilings, floors, or walls and fasten pipes with brackets. The Pipefitter checks a system for leaks by forcing liquid, stream, or air through it under pressure. They must know how to weld, solder, braze and rig. They work with cast iron, wrought iron and steel pipe, aluminum, brass, stainless steel, plastic, glass and special alloy materials.

Tools used by Pipefitters include reamers, drills, gas torches, welding equipment, pipecutters, benders and threaders.

Working Conditions: Work is done indoors and out. It is dirty and noisy and the worker is exposed to heat, cold, fumes and toxic odors. Work is active and strenuous with prolonged standing; much walking, reaching and lifting; and occasionally working in cramped or uncomfortable positions.

Recommended High School Courses: General math, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, general science, physics, mechanical drawing
Terms of Apprenticeship:
# 5 years on-the-job training
# related classroom instruction

General Qualifications:
# Legal working age
# good moral character
# good physical condition
# high school graduate or GED
# United States citizen

Admission Requirements of the JAC:
# Reside within the jurisdiction of Steamfitters Local Union #449
# qualification on written examination
# personal interview
# finger-printing may be required

Contact: Pipefitters' Joint Apprenticeship Program
c/o Steamfitters LU 449
1459 Woodruff St.
Pittsburgh PA, 15220
Tom Walsh, Training Coordinator
Telephone (412) 481-0333, Fax (215) 481-6416
Local 449's Homepage