

Pathways Into CONSTRUCTION



We've taken into consideration future job growth, variety of future career options, number of job openings, and future talent shortages to help estimate how "high opportunity" some great positions are.

Opportunity Level Key

- Good
- Great
- Amazing

Construction for High Schoolers

No diploma required - Introduction to the field

Cleaners of Vehicles & Equipment	\$10.00/hr entry	
Parking Lot Attendants	\$10.00/hr entry	
Landscaping & Grounds Workers	\$11.60/hr entry	
Tree Trimmers & Pruners	\$17.00/hr entry	
Construction Laborers	\$29.00/hr entry	
Construction Carpenters	\$15.75/hr entry	
Telecommunications Installers	\$22.00/hr entry	

Introduction to High-Demand Trades

Unlicensed Trades

Carpenters (4-6 yrs)	\$17.90/hr entry	
Concrete Finishers (1-2 yrs)	\$19.28/hr entry	

How to get in: Twin Cities Carpenters Local 322; Cement Masons Local 633

Licensed Trades

Pipefitters/Steamfitters (5-6 yrs)	\$22.20/hr entry	
Electricians (5-8 yrs)	\$24.50/hr entry	

How to get in: Steamfitters Pipefitters Local 455; St. Paul Electrical JATC

Specialty Trades

Operating Engineers (3-6 yrs)	\$24.40/hr entry	
Ironworkers (3-4 yrs)	\$23.20/hr entry	

How to get in: IUOE Local 49; IronWorkers Local 512

*Each high-demand trade above indicates the average approximate number of years it takes to complete the required hours of work/study when accepted as an apprentice. All entry-level salary and occupation data from 2018 Q2 Census of Employment and Wages by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Ramsey County, MN.

Getting Started

- **Take a career exploration quiz** to evaluate your interest in the field overall. CAREERwise.minnstate.edu has great "Assess Yourself" tools.
- **Learn** about different pathways into construction careers, and the requirements along the way. Talk to someone at a trade union to learn when their apprenticeship application period is open.
- **Explore** by getting some hands-on experience. Employers love seeing examples of real work you have done, even if it's simply for a class project. Showing that you can apply what you know is essential.
- **Talk to your career navigator** in your school about classes or experiences you could have now to help build your academic and professional toolkit. Here are a few options available to you:
 - **Woodworking & Intro to Construction Industry** - WBLAS (9-12)
 - **Blueprint Reading; Carpentry; Hand Tools** - WBLAS (9-12)
 - **Architectural Design; Project Lead the Way** - WBLAS (9-10)
 - **Kids at Work; Construct Tomorrow; MN Trades Academy**

What makes these careers great?

- **Get paid for what you know, not where you went to school.** Construction jobs are some of the highest paying for people with an Associate's degree or less.
- **Specialize.** This sector needs people who have specialized skill sets and can work on a variety of job sites. Take note of what you enjoy most about your classes and get on a targeted track in that area, whether through gaining more industry credentials, talking with your local trade union, or starting an apprenticeship program.
- **Be part of a changing industry.** New technology is changing the face of day-to-day work in construction. Have a hand in shaping what tomorrow looks like.
- **See the products of your work.** One of the most rewarding things about working in construction is being able to point to real-world projects you contributed to.
- **Seasonality.** In construction there are high and low employment seasons. You might work extremely long hours in the summer, but hardly at all in the wintertime for some types of jobs. Be prepared for this!

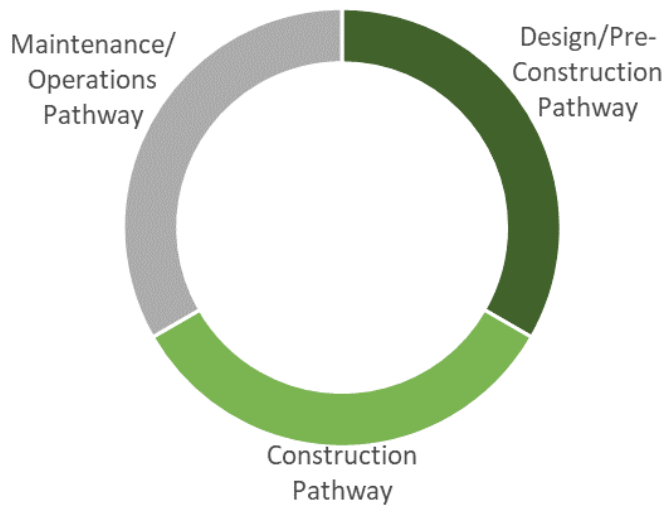
Next Career Move

Smart Certs

- **OSHA Certification** is an essential for anyone going into Construction. Most entry-level positions have a requirement or preference for applicants with this certification, and your career navigators will help you on your way.
- **A Driver's License** is a basic requirement for a lot of positions, and if you're 18, getting your forklift license might also help make you competitive for more positions.
- **First Aid** is often a preferred skill for construction roles. Being able to demonstrate that you understand safety and proper first aid response will make you a stronger applicant.



EXPLORE CONSTRUCTION CAREERS



Data and design by RealTime Talent, November 2018



Career Pathways CONTACTS

Jenny Moore

jennifer.moore@isd624.org

651.773.6213

*South Campus Office
Room 108*

Jeremy Kerg

jeremy.kerg@isd624.org

651.773.6239

*South Campus College &
Career Center*