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apprenticeship WORKS

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Apprenticeship Minnesota events

More dates and locations will be added throughout the year

Join representatives from Apprenticeship Minnesota to learn about how employers and workers can benefit from apprenticeship. Some of our future events include:

Benefits of Apprenticeship, multiple dates and locations

- We invite employers to join us to learn about registered apprenticeship and how apprenticeship can help businesses grow and sustain an innovative workforce. Special guest speakers and topics are presented at each location. Visit www.dli.mn.gov/business/workforce/apprenticeship-events for details.

April 24, 2019, Little Canada – From High School to Apprenticeship

- We invite parents, educators, school counselors and school administrators to participate in a panel discussion April 24, 2019, at the Finishing Trades Institute of the Upper Midwest to learn how apprenticeships can help high school graduates earn a good wage, create job security, master skills and receive a nationally recognized credential. Panelists will share ideas and best practices about how to effectively engage youth and parents about this path to a rewarding career.

View all of our events and register to attend at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workforce/apprenticeship-events.

Questions?

Contact kelly.henriksen@state.mn.us or 651-284-5837.



Share the benefits of apprenticeship

Know someone interested in **becoming an apprentice**? Or an employer who wants to **start an apprenticeship program**? Information and resources are available at www.apprenticeshipmn.com.



Minnesota celebrates Women Building Success awards event

Minnesota's construction trades gathered March 6, 2019, at Surly Brewing in Minneapolis to celebrate women in the building trades. The second-annual Women Building Success awards night was attended by both women and men who have been in the trades for more than 30 years, as well as new apprentices.

The experience, knowledge and diversity of those in attendance filled the room with positive energy and support for women in the construction trades as officials move toward the goal of 20% female participation. This important event recognizes the talented women in the trades, acknowledges the advances women have made and provides the young apprentices a glimpse of the endless possibilities of a great career.

Congratulation to this year's winners:

Apprentice of the Year

- Laura Tracey, IBEW 110
- Honorable mention: Stefany Slaney, Sprinklerfitters 417

Journeyworker of the Year

- Katie LaPlant, Carpenters 322
- Honorable mention: Viengsavanh Paborriboon, Sheet Metal 10

Women's Advocate of the Year

- Tasha Lawrence, Plumbers 34
- Honorable mention: Wendy Stuhr, Operating Engineers 49

The event was organized by The Women Building Success Committee. Members include:

- Jenny Winkelaar, Minneapolis Building & Construction Trades Council
- Jennifer Gaspersich, IBEW 292
- Terri Stave, Elevator Constructors Local 9
- Carrie Robles, Laborer 563
- Jody Paulson, BAC Local1
- Barb Pecks, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters



Award recipients from the Women Building Success awards included, left to right, Stefany Slaney, Laura Tracey, Viengsavanh Paborriboon, Katie LaPlant, Wendy Stuhr and Tasha Lawrence. (Photo by Vince Muzik/fcfmn.org)

Apprenticeship Minnesota presents at safety meeting

Terry Frauly, Apprenticeship Minnesota, presented March 13, 2019, to 53 apprentices from Design Electric Corporation in St. Cloud at the company's annual safety meeting.

The discussion stressed the importance of apprenticeship training, job safety and the rules of apprenticeship. Apprenticeship Minnesota staff are available for presentations. Contact us at dli.apprenticeship@state.mn.us if you'd like us to present at your event.



Fairview launches apprenticeships for surgical techs, medical assistants

Andrea Jacobson was working in the pre-op area of Fairview Ridges Hospital as a nursing station technician. She knew she wanted more, to further her medical career. She just needed a push.

Deborah Axmacher, director of perioperative and endoscopy at the hospital, asked if she'd like to shadow a surgical technologist – the people who ensure surgeons have all the instruments they need in the operating room. Jacobson did that for a day, applied for Fairview's apprenticeship program, completed an entrance test, and now she's on her way.

As part of the apprenticeship, Jacobsen works three days each week at the hospital and takes classes twice a week through Rasmussen College.

"I'm learning about a new instrument every day. One of the surgical techs took me under her wing and even gave me her handmade flash cards to study," Jacobson said. "I'm so excited to have the opportunity to advance my career and my education at the same time."



Andrea Jacobson

Fairview has successfully launched three apprenticeship programs since 2017 – first for nurses and now for surgical technologists and medical assistants. Apprenticeships are more common in construction and manufacturing. But with the cost of education rising and many people coming into the workforce with less education than those exiting, Fairview saw an opportunity to expand the concept to health care.

The programs benefit both Fairview and the employee. Fairview grows a more skilled workforce, while employees get better access to high-demand jobs, higher wages and a more secure career path. Learn how to start an apprenticeship program at your business or how to become an apprentice at www.apprenticeshipmn.com.

Cement Masons, Plasterers and Shophands mark graduations



The Cement Masons, Plasterers and Shophands Local 633 JATC Training Center recently celebrated the graduation of an APEX 2 group of pre-apprentices (top left and right photos) and the program completion of the training center's third-year apprentices (right).



Training center pairs apprentices, trainees for mentoring

The Carpenters and Joiners Training Center helped 41 APEX pre-apprenticeship program graduates become apprentices in 2018. They went to work as carpenters, piledrivers and laborers. The center plans to put even more graduates to work in 2019.

The training center was recently awarded an APEX grant from Apprenticeship Minnesota to host five APEX: Industry Orientation classes through Sept. 30, 2019.

The Training Center pairs each of the APEX students with a third- or fourth-year apprentice who is involved in the apprenticeship, local and union. Officials hope the mentoring program will put more program graduates to work and keep a higher percentage of apprentices working toward graduation.

The center started teaching its 11th group of APEX students in March 2019. Instructors paired the students and apprentice mentors who are able to work side-by-side in a controlled environment as they continue to learn a new craft.

The mentor apprentices are given a guide book that includes conversation starters, Training Center contact information and additional resources. Mentors are also trained about how to handle various scenarios that may occur between student and apprentice.

The center currently has six APEX students in the program. Four are working or have a position lined up and one is sponsored into an apprenticeship program.

Throughout the program, the mentors provide weekly updates about the students. Currently, mentors are helping with jobsite protocol, steps to take after being sponsored into an apprenticeship program, how to interact with a contractor and tips for finding work.



The Carpenters and Joiners Training Center is using mentors to help prospective apprentices during its training program.



Students visit apprenticeship training centers

Students from St. Paul's GAP YouthBuild (right) visited two apprenticeship training centers in March 2019.

Students toured the Roofer's Local 96 JATC on March 7. They learned about the roofing trade, met current apprentices and participated in hands-on activities under the guidance of current apprentices. Students toured the Floorcovers JATC on March 13. The students met with staff and learned more about the trade. Visiting these JATCs provided the students with a great opportunity to learn more about the benefits of registered apprenticeships.



BY THE NUMBERS

	Jan. 2019	Feb. 2019	March 2019
Sponsor information			
Active sponsors	188	189	189
New sponsors	1	1	1
New occupations	1	0	2
Apprentice information			
Total apprentices	11,566	11,472	11,366
Females	871	861	858
Minorities	2,321	2,297	2,285
Veterans	812	807	803
New apprentices	202	155	167
Graduations	115	108	94
Services to sponsors and apprentices			
Information calls	177	162	146
Community outreach visits	6	13	13
Technical assistance visits	10	8	14



Recent graduates of a training program through the Construction Laborers Education, Apprenticeship and Training fund of Minnesota and North Dakota.

LIUNA members graduate

A new class of graduates recently completed a training program through the Construction Laborers Education, Apprenticeship and Training Fund of Minnesota and North Dakota.

This year's group included 386 trainees who met the program requirements of 288 classroom hours and 4,000 field hours over three years.

The Laborers Apprenticeship Program logged 110,636 apprentice training hours in 2018. Beyond the required new member orientation class, safety week and general construction classes, LIUNA member trainees can take approximately 70 different LIUNA training courses. Some of them include blueprint reading, concrete practices, environmental training, heavy highway skills, pipelaying, safety, welding and others.

"We are proud of the accomplishments our trainees have earned," said Dean Mills, director of training. "One of our goals is to make sure that we are educating these members in safety and skills training to create a safe, efficient and more productive work environment for our signatory contractors."

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Apprenticeship in the news

Recent articles about apprenticeship and related programs

Building strong futures

By Erica Rivers, Minnesota Women's Press

Amanda Gardas searched for years for the right career. In high school, a counselor pushed her towards Minneapolis Community and Technical College, but Gardas enlisted in the Army instead, where she received training as a cook. After three years of service, she came home to Minnesota and worked chef jobs. She scraped by financially, but relied on Medical Assistance for her children's healthcare and had no money saved.

One of her friends, a woman who worked across the street at a dry cleaner, mentioned that she was considering a return to the local union as a pipefitter. A lightbulb went off. "I was just floored to know somebody who did this work, and I thought, 'Maybe I can do this,'" Gardas says.

Continue reading in the Minnesota Women's Press at <https://womenspress.com/Content/Default/2019-March-Feminisms/Article/Building-Strong-Futures/-3/1025/5666>.



Amanda Gardas (Photo by Stephan Dupont)

Construct Tomorrow program featured

Construct Tomorrow provides experiences for youth through hands-on events that develop awareness of the variety of opportunities in the building and construction trades.

The events engage thousands of students each year. A recent two-day, Duluth-area event brought more than 1,000 students together to meet with industry leaders and learn about careers in the trades.

Read more in the Duluth News Tribune at www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/education/4577214-building-need-trades-event-connects-students-construction-job-opportunities.

News from Construction Career Pathways

The Construction Careers Pathway (CCP) Alliance is a collaborative effort to provide year-round construction career exploration opportunities for Minnesota youth.

The intent of CCP is to provide work-based learning exposure starting in middle school and concluding with a career in the Minnesota construction industry. Some recent news from the organization includes:

Construction career lets Ricky Garbow achieve childhood dream: <https://constructioncareers.org/success-stories/construction-career-lets-ricky-garbow-achieve-childhood-dream/>



Ricky Garbow (Photo by CCP)

Application deadlines coming for construction apprenticeship programs: <https://constructioncareers.org/application-deadlines-coming-up-for-construction-apprenticeship-programs/>

Helmets to Hardhats helps more Minnesota veterans than ever before: <https://constructioncareers.org/helmets-to-hardhats-helps-more-minnesota-veterans-then-ever-before/>