

Local 400 Plumbers & Steamfitters

Careers in the Pipe Trades



Youth Apprenticeship Program Information

Local 400's Youth Apprenticeship Program allows students to explore a career in the Pipe Trades as a part of the student's regular high school schedule. Students are able to participate in on-the-job training and job-related classroom instruction related to enhance what is being learned on the job; this work-based learning allows students to experience first-hand career awareness, career exploration, and career preparation to create a pipeline for becoming a State of Wisconsin Registered Apprentice and skilled, credentialed Journeyman in the Pipe Trades.

Post H.S Career Path Information

An entry level trades position allows an individual to assist Apprentices and Journeyworkers in a shop and/or on a construction site under direct supervision. Witnessing the day-to-day operations and expectations allows the individual to determine their commitment to a pipe trade career before signing a state contract for a State of Wisconsin Registered Apprenticeship; it also allows the contractor to determine the Apprenticeship readiness of the individual.

Working Conditions

Individuals work indoors and outdoors in adverse weather conditions. The work can be active and strenuous requiring walking, standing, stooping, crawling, heavy lifting, working in confined spaces, and working in some height extremes. Some local travel may be required.

Qualifications

- Youth Apprenticeship Program:
 - Enrolled in High School, 16 years of age through high school graduation
 - Reliable Transportation to School and Work
- Post H.S. Career Path
 - High School Diploma, HSED or GED
 - 18 Years of Age or High School Graduate at 17
 - Reliable Transportation to Work

Application Process

Complete the Wisconsin Pipe Trades Questionnaire by using the QR Code.



Pipe Trades Opportunities

Fabricators read and interpret blueprints or product specification instructions to fabricate and assemble pipe products. Daily tasks may include fitting pipe to isometric spool drawings; welding pipe according to code using numerous processes such as MIG, TIG, Flux Core, Stick and more; performing x-ray quality welds; passing weld qualification tests; following quality control procedures to ensure fabricated pipe meets company and customer specification. Fabricators typically work in a shop environment, but can occasionally assist on construction jobsites as needed.

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HVAC/R (Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration) Service Technicians maintain, warranty and diagnose/repair heating and cooling systems. Daily tasks may include performing preventative maintenance by cleaning, calibrating, adjusting, monitoring, and repairing HVAC systems; examine, locate, diagnose, isolate, and troubleshoot HVAC system errors; conduct emergency service to make rapid repairs to customer HVAC systems; repair and replace defective parts in HVAC units, equipment and their controls (switches, fan controls, damper motors, louvers, filters, controls, belts, compressors, heat exchangers, pressure controls, safety valves, and more). This work is often performed in schools, hospitals, commercial buildings, industrial buildings, etc.

Plumbers are versatile in many aspects of the plumbing industry and perform a variety of tasks on a daily basis that may include preparing, installing, testing, maintaining, servicing and/or removing plumbing systems; setting and connecting plumbing and gas fixtures and appliances; cutting, threading, welding, brazing, soldering, and bending pipe; installing pipe assemblies, fittings, valves and appliances. This work is often performed in schools, hospitals, commercial buildings, industrial buildings, wastewater plants, etc.

Steamfitters fabricate, install, maintain, and repair piping systems. Daily tasks may include rigging, setting, and supporting piping related equipment, valves, and fittings; brazing; soldering; pressure testing systems for leaks; fusions and mechanical joining of pipes, threading pipe; welding pipe using processes such as MIG, TIG, Flux Core, Stick and more. This work is often performed in schools, hospitals, commercial buildings, industrial buildings, chemical plants, power plants, wastewater plants, etc. The pipes in these facilities are often under high pressure with steam, chemicals, compressed air, liquids, fuel and more requiring a Steamfitters expertise for installation and repair.

Excellence in Technical Education Award

The Local 400 Excellence in Technical Education Award is presented to local high schools in North-east Wisconsin for its commitment to technical education and participation in the Local 400 Youth Apprenticeship Program. As a part of this award local high schools receive a **custom Local 400 hallway banner and a Miller Wire Feed Weld Machine** for their Technical Education Program(s) courtesy of Local 400, the Mechanical Contractors Association (MCA) and Miller Electric.

How your school can become eligible:

1. The School must participate in the Wisconsin State Youth Apprenticeship Program.
2. At least one high school student must be employed as a Youth Apprentice with one of our signatory contractors during the regular school year.

Youth Apprenticeship Students & Local 400 Courses

Youth Apprenticeship students are encouraged to participate in Local 400 courses. Courses include, but not limited to: Construction OSHA 30 Certification, First Aid/CPR/AED Certification, Welding, Use & Care of Tools, Basic Math, and Union 101: UA & Labor History.

For additional information, please contact Local 400.

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