**Apprenticeships**

**What is an apprenticeship?**

Apprenticeship is a formal system of employee training that combines on-the-job training with related technical instruction. It is designed to produce craft-workers who are fully competent in all aspects of an occupation, including knowledge, skill and proficiency on the job. With apprenticeship training, there is a written contract between the apprentice and the sponsor, approved by and registered with the state of Minnesota that specifies the length of the training, school hours, an outline of the skills of the trade to be learned and the wages the apprentice will receive.

Minnesota's apprenticeship program allows employers to design their own apprenticeship program that provides apprentices with specific skills, training and job-related instruction tailored to the company's needs.

**What are the requirements for entry into the apprenticeship program?**

A high school diploma or G.E.D. is required for apprentice applicants. Math, science and industrial technical courses are especially helpful in being considered for an apprenticeship.

**Classroom Training**

Classroom instruction is designed to provide apprentices with knowledge in technical subjects related to their trade. For example, construction apprenticeships may include course work in blueprint reading, carpentry, iron work, and concrete work. At least 144 hours of related classroom instruction are required during each year of apprenticeship training. Classes are taught by journeyworker instructors and are usually held at night through public educational facilities such as community colleges or vocational-technical schools.

The apprentice must show satisfactory progress on the job and in related classroom instruction. To master a particular trade, an apprentice must learn and perfect each skill and bring those skills up to the speed and accuracy required of the job. A good attendance record is also important.

**List of occupations with apprenticeship training programs:**  <http://www.dli.mn.gov/APPR/PDF/apprtrn.pdf>

**Search for apprenticeships:**

[http://www.careerwise.mnscu.edu/education/educationSearch#](http://www.careerwise.mnscu.edu/education/educationSearch)