



Look around you—do you see homes, schools, factories and churches?

Do you see skyscrapers, stadiums, and superhighways?

The men and women who built these structures were skilled workers, and their labor gave shape to the American dream.

Throughout our history, the skilled workforce has been the heart and soul of our nation's economic strength and security.

Today, we need a new generation of men and women to join the skilled trades.

Who will build America's future?
Will it be you?

Plentiful Jobs

Over the next decade, more than one million jobs will be created in the building and construction industries. Many more jobs will open up as “baby boomers” retire. Trades such as carpentry, brick masonry, metal working, heavy equipment operation, plastering and construction labor are expected to generate the most new jobs. As demand for these positions increases, so will opportunities for the men and women who have the skills to get the job done.

Family Wages

From their very first job in the skilled trades, workers can expect to earn good money. Over the course of a career, a skilled tradesperson can earn enough to comfortably support a family, buy a home, educate their children and finance a secure retirement. Many jobs offer generous benefits such as profit sharing and health insurance.

Future Opportunities

Skilled workers with training and experience can build fulfilling careers, including opportunities to manage projects and people. For those who want to be self-employed, the skilled trades offer opportunities to be your own boss and build a business.

Making a Difference

Skilled laborers know the satisfaction that comes from building something of substance that will last for generations. They also know what it means to restore and repair our roads, buildings, homes and bridges after accidents and disasters. Indeed, skilled workers are the fuel that powers the engine of economic growth.

The Skills to Build America's Future

America's prosperity and security depend on the men and women who will make up the skilled workforce in the 21st century. Those who learn a trade—through education, apprenticeships and on-the-job training—can look forward to exciting, interesting, well-paying careers in a growing field. What's more, they will have the pride and sense of accomplishment that comes from building America's future.



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Break New Ground. Build a Future.

Want to Learn More?

The Department of Labor, together with the Skilled Trades Coalition, is working to educate young people and transitioning workers about the jobs that are available in the skilled trades, and how to get started in the industry. For more information, visit www.careervoyages.gov or your local One Stop Career Center.

The Skilled Trades Coalition is a partnership between the:

U.S. Department of Labor

U.S. Department of Education

Construction Industry Round Table

National Association of Home Builders

National Heavy and Highway Alliance

- Laborers' International Union of America
- International Union of Operating Engineers
- United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
- International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental & Reinforcing Iron Workers
- Operative Plasterers' & Cement Masons' International Association
- International Brotherhood of Teamsters
- International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers

www.careervoyages.gov

Break New Ground.



Build a Future.

