



The U.S. Department of Labor has designated November 13-19, 2017 as National Apprenticeship Week. The North American Building Trades Unions and its signatory contractors have funded and operated a skilled craft apprenticeship system for over 100 years.

To celebrate this event the apprenticeship programs of select Northern Nevada Building and Construction Trades unions and their associated contractors invite elected officials along with business and industry personnel to visit their joint apprenticeship training centers to see what the centers have to offer and why apprenticeship has earned the name the “other four-year degree”

Northern Nevada apprenticeship programs in the building and construction trades have been assessed for college credit, and are accredited through TMCC which can be applied toward an associates or bachelor’s degree. Some of the apprenticeship programs have worked with TMCC on additional curriculum so that when they complete their apprenticeship they will have obtained an associate’s degree. Nearly 9 out of 10 apprentices are employed after finishing their apprenticeship.

Apprenticeship and workplace-based training creates industry driven and flexible training solutions to meet national and local needs. It is an “earn while you learn” system that offers people of all ages the chance to learn from construction industry professionals. When individuals complete the apprenticeship program, they obtain a portable, nationally recognized credential that they can take anywhere in the country. Apprentices average starting wage \$11 to \$20 per hour and workers will earn an average of \$300,000 more over their lifetime than their non-apprentice peers.

Currently in Nevada there are 78 registered programs, 3324 registered apprentices, 47% are minorities, 4% are females and 8% are veterans. The average age of a construction worker in Nevada is about 50 years old and most of the construction trades can retire between 55 to 60. In the next 10 years we are going to lose half of our workforce.

Benefits of apprenticeship include helping to recruit and develop a highly skilled workforce which improves productivity and the bottom line. Apprenticeship reduce turnover costs and increase employee retention. Per the US Department of Labor for every dollar spent on apprenticeship, employers get approximately \$1.50 in ROI.

Sincerely,

Randy Canale, President
Northern Nevada Apprenticeship
Coordinators Association-NNACA



Rob Benner, Business Representative
Building & Construction Trades Council
of Northern Nevada

