CHICAGO WOMEN IN TRADES

PRE APPRENTICESHIP INFO SESSION
About CWIT

Founded by tradeswomen in 1981, Chicago Women in Trades (CWIT) exists to improve women’s economic equity by increasing their participation in high-skill, non-traditional occupations.

- CWIT is a welcoming and supportive community committed to providing quality training and resources for women seeking to build successful careers
- CWIT is a trusted and established partner in the construction industry
UNDERSTANDING THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The construction industry is engaged in building, restoring and repairing our cities and towns across America and world-wide.

Skilled construction workers help build office buildings, homes, schools, roads, bridges, factories and other structures.

THE TRADES

- Bricklayers
- Carpenters
- Electricians
- Iron Workers
- Laborers
- Operating Engineers
- Painters & Drywall Finishers
- Pipefitters
- Plumbers
- Sheet Metal Workers...and more
Why should I consider a career in the trades?

You can build a future with a career in construction.

HIGHER INCOME

A career in union construction trades provides excellent wages with guaranteed raises every year.

BENEFITS

Union tradespeople receive better than average benefits, including health insurance and a pension plan.

LIFE-LONG SKILLS

Skills that stay with you...career skills for jobs anywhere you want to live.
Satisfying and challenging work.

IRONWORKERS
Journey Level Wages

- Bricklayers $47/hr
- Carpenters $50/hr
- Electricans $49/hr
- Ironworkers $50/hr
- Laborers $43/hr
- Operating Engineers $47/hr
- Pipefitters $50/hr
- Painters-Dry Wall Finishers $47/hr
- Plumbers $51/hr
- Sheet Metal Workers $46/hr

Union workers receive consistent pay raises on a regular basis.

Depending on the trade, it takes from 2-5 years to complete an apprenticeship and become a journey level tradeswoman.
What is the difference between pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship?

**Pre-Apprenticeship**
PREPARATION & PRE-TESTING
- FREE 12-Week UNPAID training
- Explore different career opportunities in construction
- Industry math classroom instructions and test preparation
- Prepares you to compete for and succeed in construction apprenticeship programs

**Apprenticeship**
EARN WHILE YOU LEARN
- On the job-paid training and classroom instructions
- Receive recognized certifications
- Develop your skills
- Working and learning side-by-side with journey level tradespeople
NETWORK OF TRADE SISTERS

BRICKLAYERS
Technical Opportunities Program-TOP

Established in 1987 (TOP) is a FREE Pre-Apprenticeship Program preparing women to compete for and succeed in construction apprenticeship programs and other related non-traditional occupations.
CHICAGO WOMEN IN TRADES
FREE 12-WEEK
PRE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
WHAT TO EXPECT

HANDS-ON LESSONS
FIELD TRIPS IN
VARIOUS SECTORS OF
CONSTRUCTION

MATH TEST PREPARATION
PHYSICAL CONDITIONING
BASIC CONSTRUCTION SKILLS

JOB READINESS
NETWORKING SKILLS
MOCK INTERVIEWS
RESUME BUILDING
REQUIREMENTS

It's All About You!

- High School Diploma or GED
- Driver's License
- Birth certificate or other proof of eligibility to work in the United States
- Physically fit
- Able to demonstrate basic math and reading skills on an aptitude test
- Able to pass a drug test
EXPECTATIONS AND FULL PARTICIPATION

TOP Classes
12-Weeks
Two Nights a Week
6:00pm - 9:30pm
Saturdays
8:00am - 3:30pm

Punctuality
- Give yourself time to prepare for class, arrive 15 minutes before the start time
- Follow the program guidelines on attendance and tardiness to receive your certificate of completion

Commitment
- Bring a positive viewpoint to the class
- Stay focused and work together with fellow aspiring tradeswomen

Class Protocol
- Complete all classroom and homework assignments
- Respect your instructors and classmates
PAINTERS & DRYWALL FINISHERS

PAVING THE WAY
GIVE TRADESWOMEN A LITTLE RESPECT
Interested in Building a Career in the Construction Trades?

Contact
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STAY UPDATED & CONNECTED!

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