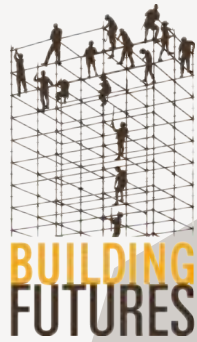




FIND YOUR PATH

Your Rhode Island
Construction Career Guide



Building Futures is a nonprofit organization that connects people to family-sustaining careers through Registered Apprenticeship.

Our construction pre-apprenticeship program has launched trades careers with over 300 men and women. Building Futures also administers the MC3, a nationally recognized apprenticeship readiness curriculum, for Rhode Island high schools and community agencies.

Learn more at www.bfri.org



FIND YOUR PATH

Building and Construction is a fast-paced industry with big rewards, including excellent pay, health, and retirement benefits.

This guide is designed to help you explore careers in Rhode Island's Building and Construction Trades— professions that build our large-scale construction projects like highways and bridges, large commercial office and residential projects, universities, hospitals and more.

"Since 1908, the Rhode Island Building & Construction Trades Council (RIBCTC) has empowered workers with competitive job opportunities. Today, our trained, highly skilled and safety conscious workforce represent a collective body of more than 10,000 union craftsmen and women in and around Rhode Island. We represent approximately 16 trades covering all facets of construction. When you become a union apprentice, you enjoy all the benefits that come with being a proud union member. Union members earn far better wages and benefits than workers who are non-union. Become part of a strong and united brother/sisterhood of thousands of men and women who work together and strengthen our communities."

—Michael Sabitoni, President, Rhode Island Building & Construction Trades Council

SKILLED TRADESPEOPLE NEEDED

Construction is one of Rhode Island's fastest growing industries.*
As a skilled tradesperson, your expertise will be in high demand.

- 2200+ new jobs by 2028
- 9% growth industry-wide
- Skilled tradeswomen & men are retiring– the industry needs to train new people to meet demand



* RI Department of Labor & Training Labor Market Information Occupational Outlook 2028 <https://dlt.ri.gov/documents/pdf/lmi/occoutlook.pdf>



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"Working with my hands- it just clicked with me. The benefit is learning new things, driving around the state and taking pride in the bridges I helped build. Don't think about it, just do it. We need a lot of new union workers in the trades."

–Jonathon Perez, Journeyworker Ironworker, Local 37



Registered Apprenticeship is:

- Employment & postsecondary education combined
- Structured on-the-job learning supplemented by classroom instruction
- Driven and designed by employers to ensure you develop industry-specific skills in high demand

A trades apprenticeship is your path to a rewarding career—*debt-free.*

Trades Apprenticeship vs. Building Tech Degree

	Registered Apprenticeship in the RI Building Trades Unions	Building Technology Bachelor's Degree A Local Example
	\$20.99/hour* average starting wage plus \$25.97 in healthcare and retirement benefits	\$30,000 /year** tuition cost
Year 1	+\$40,300 average across trades +\$49,862 in healthcare & retirement	-\$30,000 (+ Debt & Interest)
Year 2	+ \$50,953 average + Healthcare & retirement benefits	-\$30,000 (+ Debt & Interest)
Year 3	+ \$57,665 average + Healthcare & retirement benefits	-\$30,000 (+ Debt & Interest)
Year 4	+ \$68,717 average + Healthcare & retirement benefits	-\$30,000 (+ Debt & Interest)
Total Over 4 Years	+ \$217,635 average wages + \$199,448 average healthcare & retirement benefits + Journeyworker Status	-\$120,000 + Debt & Interest + College Degree

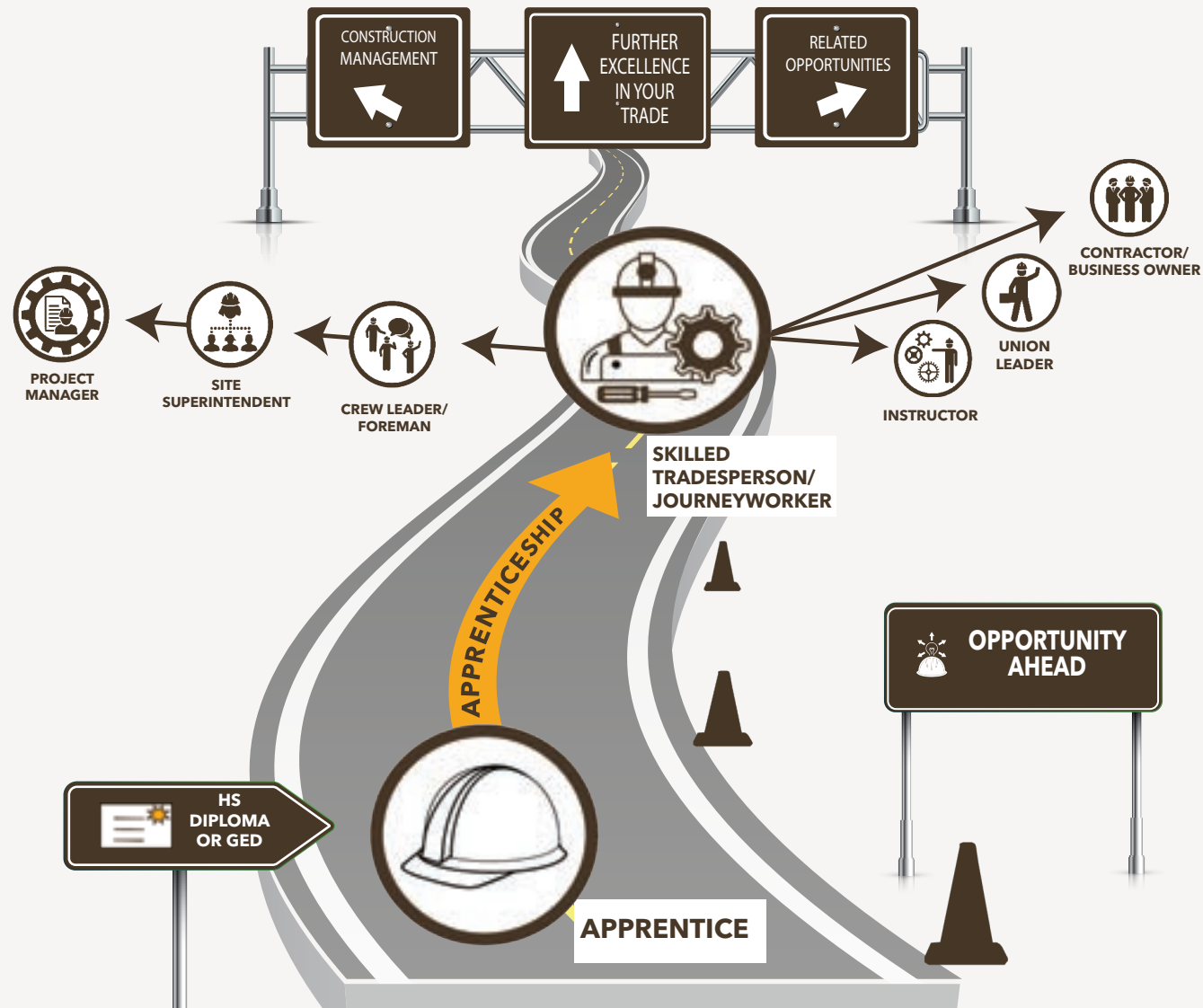
*Based on average 2020 wages and Apprenticeship length across RI Trades. **Based on 2019-2020 tuition at trade schools in RI



The retirement benefits in the trades can't be beat. In our trades careers, you are not just earning a paycheck, you are securing your future.

*Scott Duhamel, Secretary Treasurer,
RI Building & Construction Trades Council*

Construction Career Pathways



Kickstart your career with apprenticeship

The trade unions in the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council work together with construction employers across the state to run outstanding Registered Apprenticeship programs. These apprenticeship programs develop Rhode Island's next generation of skilled workers. While the skills are different in each trade, work in any of the trades shares some things in common.

 <p>APPRENTICESHIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the job learning + classroom instruction • Earn while you learn • Nationally recognized credentials 	<p>CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIPS</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration is determined by on-the-job training • Usually 3-5 years, depending on the trade • Wages increase with time on the job
<p>ENVIRONMENT</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in all weather & sometimes at heights • Fast-paced • Physically & mentally demanding 	<p>ADVANTAGES</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family sustaining wages • Family medical coverage, pension, annuity • Pride in achieving excellence in a craft
<p>CAREER PATH</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guaranteed advancement • Excellent leadership opportunities • Multiple opportunities after apprenticeship 	<p>PREPARATION</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GED or HS diploma • Physical fitness & stamina • Hands-on work or hobbies & math skills

Prepare in School

The Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) is designed by the experts- the North American Building Trades Unions (NABTU). Building Futures works with your high school or local community group to bring you the MC3. It is designed to prepare young people for Registered Apprenticeship.

MC3

Multi-Craft Core Curriculum

- ✓ Provides a national certification, recognized by building trades union apprenticeship programs nationwide
- ✓ Endorsed by the RI Building & Construction Trades Council to recruit the next generation of tradespeople
- ✓ Grants exclusive access to building trades apprenticeship coordinators for MC3 graduates

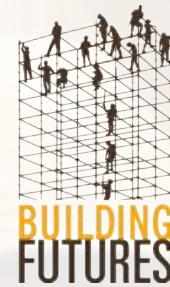
How It Works

- 120 instructional hours, delivered in a student's junior or senior year
- Topics include industry awareness, health and safety, math, labor history, diversity, blueprint reading, green construction, financial literacy
- Technical assistance and administration through Building Futures

To find out how your school can offer the MC3 contact Building Futures, (401) 919-5919 or info@bfri.org



Prepare with Pre-apprenticeship



Building Futures' construction pre-apprenticeship program is one of the best in the country. We prepare low-income adults (18+) for careers in the trades. Our 5-week hands-on program builds skills necessary in any trade.

Skills training is supplemented with classroom learning in health & safety, math, financial literacy, and more.

✓ Career guidance to help you launch a career in the trade that matches your talents & career goals

✓ Opportunity to earn certifications: the RI State Apprenticeship Council, MC3, OSHA 10, First Aid & CPR, Aerial Lift, and Welding

✓ Support provided throughout your new career- from trade placement to your first job and beyond

Learn more at www.bfri.org



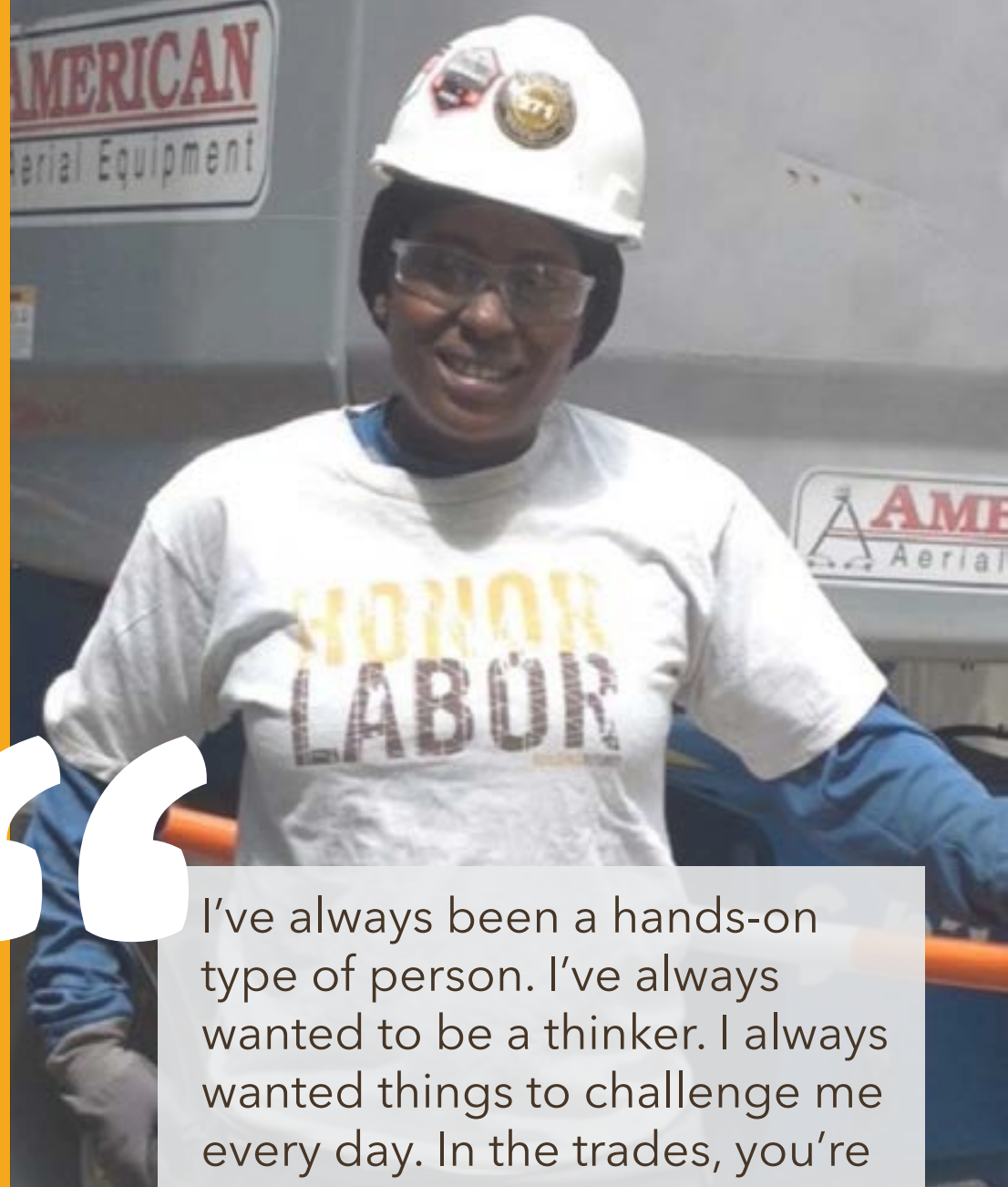
Vennicia Kingston

**Journeyworker
Laborer, Local 271**

Warehouse worker ->
Business Owner

Vennicia began in the trades as an apprentice Laborer. Her first job as an apprentice was rebuilding the Pawtucket Bridge- a big, multi-faceted project that allowed her to complete her training and purchase her first home.

Now she has launched her own contracting business specializing in post-construction clean-up.



I've always been a hands-on type of person. I've always wanted to be a thinker. I always wanted things to challenge me every day. In the trades, you're always learning. It's always something different.



Byron Santos

**Apprentice Glazier,
Local 1333**

Boring job->
Rewarding career

Byron was a lab technician before he learned about Building Futures' pre-apprenticeship program. Now he is an apprentice glazier working with glass and plastics.

"At my old job, it was the monotony that killed me. But now I'm learning every day, I see the difference we're making every day."



I see my classmates from high school now worrying about how much they owe on college loans, and it's crazy. As an apprentice, I'm getting paid to learn.



Photo courtesy of the RI Foundation

Bricklayers & Tile Setters



Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen Local 3
MA-RI-ME-NH

150 Midway Road, Suite 153
Cranston, RI 02920-5743
(401) 946-9940
Bac1ri@verizon.net
www.bacweb.org



Find your path



The trades on the following pages offer the finest construction apprenticeship programs in Rhode Island.

Each trade offers excellent wages, health care, and retirement benefits.

Each trade has its own process for accepting new apprentices. Visit their websites, call their offices, and visit www.bfri.org for more info.

Eligibility

- ✓ 18+
- ✓ HS Diploma or GED
- ✓ Drivers License
- ✓ Reliable Transportation
- ✓ Drug Free

Additionally, the Electrical Workers require applicants have a grade C (70) or better in HS Algebra I (or equivalent) and a passing score on a reading comprehension and algebra exam. The Plumbers & Pipefitters require a passing score on a math exam.



THE WORK

Bricklayers build and restore interior and exterior walls and other structures out of brick, block, and stone. Tile Setters lay and grout ceramic tiles of all types to floors, and interior and exterior walls.

The Bricklayers & Tile Setters' apprenticeships require 5,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 3 years to complete.

Carpenters

Carpenters Union Local 330

14 Jefferson Park Road
Warwick, RI 02888
(401) 424-1100
www.nectf.org



THE WORK

Carpenters build, repair, and install cabinets, doors, windows, framing, floors, paneling, molding, and drywall used in buildings. They construct forms for pouring concrete, build wooden bridges, piers, and trestles, install tunnel bracing, and drive piles.

The Carpenters' apprenticeship requires 8,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 4 years to complete.

Electrical Workers

IBEW Local Union #99

JATC Training Facility
40 Western Industrial Drive
Cranston, RI 02921
(401) 946-9908
<https://ibew99.org>



THE WORK

Electrical workers assemble, install, maintain and test electrical equipment and wiring systems in residential, commercial, and industrial settings such as new wiring, power and controls to motors, HVAC, light fixtures, fire alarms, traffic signals, outdoor lighting, process controls, energy management, solar, wind, and energy efficiency, and other equipment.

The Electrical Workers' apprenticeship requires 10,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 5 years to complete.

Glaziers

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 11,
Glaziers Local Union #1333

269 Macklin Street
Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 781-4736
www.iupatdc11.com



THE WORK

Glaziers select, cut, assemble, and install all kinds of glass and plastics; they build and install metal sash and moldings using aluminum or steel framing, and, they apply weather seals and hardware.

The Glaziers' apprenticeship requires 8,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 4 years to complete.

Heat & Frost Insulators

International Association of Heat & Frost
Insulators and Asbestos Workers Union Local #6

303 Freeport Street
Boston, MA 02122-3513
(617) 436-4666
<https://insulators6.org>



THE WORK

Heat and frost insulators apply insulation materials to pipes, tanks, boilers, ducts, refrigeration equipment, and other surfaces requiring temperature control.

The Insulators' apprenticeship requires 6,400 on-the-job hours, which takes about 4 years to complete.





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"The best thing about apprenticeship is everything I have learned. I'm getting to see everything there is from beginning to end. As the years go on I'll get to learn more details and I'll get to run things and do things on my own."

—Rebecca White, Apprentice Electrician, Local 99



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"As a laborer, we are the first ones on the job and the last to leave, so we are always working and we get to see the whole project through- start to finish. Being a journeyworker Laborer now for 8 years, it has changed my life."

—Andre Isom, Journeyworker Laborer, Local 271



“I knew nothing about construction, but I knew I was a good physical laborer so I knew I could get through it. Now I’m a journeyworker industrial painter. It is a lot of setup and rigging, and working with paint on steel. My advice— work hard. And keep your vision on what you want.”

—Savit Sayavong, Journeyworker Industrial Painter, Local 195



“The work is interesting, especially if you have the bug for knowing how stuff is put together, if you are a hands-on learner and a hands-on worker. It is definitely something for your future. I am already making more money as an apprentice than I did in two years working at my last job.”

—Jesica Joyce, Apprentice Bricklayer, Local 3

Ironworkers

International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental & Reinforcing Iron Workers Union Local #37

845 Waterman Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914
(401) 438-1111
www.iwlocal37.com



THE WORK

Ironworkers erect, assemble or install fabricated structural metal products, usually large metal beams used in the construction of industrial, commercial, or large residential buildings. Ironworkers erect steel framework on bridges, storage tanks, and overhead crane runways.

The Ironworkers' apprenticeship requires 8,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 4 years to complete.

Laborers

Laborers International Union Local 271

410 South Main Street
Providence, RI 02903
(508) 544-9830
apprenticeship@nelapp.org
www.nelaborerstraining.org



THE WORK

Laborers place concrete and asphalt for roads, bridges, highways, and buildings; they perform a variety of functions including, underground utility work laying water, sewer, and gas lines; worksite preparation including compacting earth, digging trenches, and site maintenance; demolitions; all phases of environmental remediation; erecting scaffold and trench bracing; and, working with other crafts such as carpenter and mason tending.

The Laborers' apprenticeship requires 4,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 2 years to complete.

Painters & Tapers

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 11,
Painters Local Union #195

269 Macklin Street
Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 467-7010
www.iupatdc11.com



IUPAT 195 OFFERS 3 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS:



Commercial Painter



Drywall Finishing (Taping)



Painting and Industrial Coating and Lining Applications



THE WORK

Painters apply coats of paint, varnish, staining, enamel, or lacquer to decorate and protect interior or exterior surfaces of buildings, bridges, and other structures. **Tapers** apply joint compound and tape to drywall to seal joints producing smooth surfaces on walls and ceilings, plumbing fixtures, and appliances.

The Commercial Painter and Taping apprenticeships require 6,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 3 years to complete. **The Industrial Painting apprenticeship** requires 8,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 4 years to complete.

Plumbers & Pipefitters

Plumbers, Pipefitters, Refrigeration
Local Union #51

11 Hemingway Drive
East Providence, RI 02915
(401) 943-3033
www.ualocal51.com



UA LOCAL 51 OFFERS 3 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS:



Plumber



Pipefitter



HVAC Refrigeration Service



THE WORK

Plumbers repair, install, or alter the water, waste disposal, drainage, and gas systems and install plumbing fixtures and appliances. **Pipefitters** repair and install both high and low-pressure pipe systems that are used in manufacturing, in the generation of electricity, and in heating and cooling buildings. **HVAC** technicians maintain and install heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment.

The Plumbers and Pipefitters' apprenticeships require 10,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 5 years to complete.

Roofers

Roofers & Waterproofers Local Union #33

53 Evans Drive
PO Box 9106
Stoughton, MA 02072
(781) 341-9192
<http://local33careers.com>



Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers RI Local Union #17

22 Amflex Drive
Cranston, RI 02921
(401) 831-7150
www.smw17boston.org



THE WORK

Roofers apply roofing material like fiberglass, slate, tile, and cedar or composite material like felt or rubber membrane to ensure buildings are watertight.

The Roofers' apprenticeship requires 6,000 on-the-job hours, which takes about 3 years to complete.



THE WORK

Sheet Metal Workers build and install a wide variety of products by cutting and shaping sheets of steel, aluminum, copper, and other alloys. They fabricate and install heating and cooling components, work in industrial plants and build specialty fabrication.

The Sheet Metal Workers' apprenticeship requires 8,000+ on-the-job hours, which takes about 5 years to complete.

More Trades

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
Local Union #29
210 Bodwell Street
Avon, MA 02322
(617) 328-8400
www.boilermakerslocal29.org

Boilermakers assemble, erect, and maintain boilers, tanks, pressure vessels, heat exchangers, pollution control systems, furnaces, condensers, and water towers.

Plasters' & Cement Masons'
Local Union #40
22 Amflex Drive
Cranston, RI 02921
(401) 943-1185
www.opcmia.org

Cement masons finish exposed concrete surfaces of freshly poured floors, walls, sidewalks, foundations, dams, parking garages and lots, runways, warehouses, and roads. Plasterers apply plaster, cement or acrylic material to interior and exterior walls and ceilings.

International Union of Elevator Constructors
Local Union #39
65 Frigate Street
Jamestown, RI 02835
(401) 423-2293
www.elevatorinfo.org

Elevator constructors install, replace, service, and maintain elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, moving walkways and similar equipment in new and old construction

Eastern Millwright Local Union #1121
1661 Worcester Road, Suite 302
Framingham, MA 01701
(617) 254-2400
www.easternmillwrights.com/RegionNewEngland.xml

Millwrights install, dismantle, repair, reassemble, and move machinery in factories, power plants, and construction sites.

Sprinkler Fitters and Apprentices of Connecticut,
Rhode Island & Western Massachusetts
Local Union #669 U.A.
PO Box 48, Lebanon, CT 06249
(860) 468-0444
www.sprinklerfitters669.org

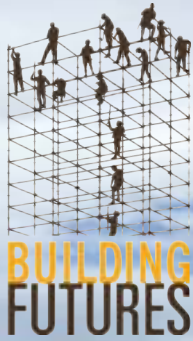
Sprinkler fitters install all types of fire protection systems, including the layout and installation of underground fire mains.



Find Your Path

**Learn more about our programs and
how to launch your new career at
www.bfri.org or email info@bfri.org**

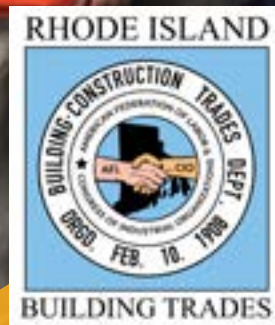
Thank you to all of the Building Futures construction pre-apprenticeship graduates who lent their pictures and voices to this effort, including, in order of appearance: Lisa Silvio, John Jorge, Jonathon Perez, Kristen Scungio, Vennicia Kingston, Byron Santos, Sounai Chantavong, Dilainey Abreu-Maria, Miguel Berrios, Darrell LaFrance, Veasna Ngeth, Rebecca White, Andre Isom, Savit Sayavong, Jessica Joyce, Jackie Chea, Devyn Maher, Orlando Correa, Orlando Gomes, Mary Brown, Michael Reyes, Santana Vicente, Sebastian Medina, Marvin Lewis, Brittany Young, Sofat Long, Justin Kelley, and Franklin Johnson.



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www.buildingtradesri.com