

# UNION-BASED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS IN AUSTIN

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# Carpenters & Millwrights Union

## Contact Information:

Austin Carpenters & Millwrights Local 1266

1825 S IH 35 Frontage Rd | Austin, TX 78741

[ubctexastraining.com](http://ubctexastraining.com)

512-236-9165

**What do carpenters do?** Construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; **building frameworks**, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. May also install cabinets, siding, drywall and batt or roll insulation. Includes brattice builders who build doors or brattices (ventilation walls or partitions) in underground passageways.

### Where do carpenters work?

Carpenters work in different **work environments** such as: building finish contractors, residential building contractors, national security and international affairs. Carpenters work indoors and outdoors on many types of construction projects, from building highways and bridges to installing kitchen cabinets. Carpenters may work in cramped spaces.

### What skills do carpenters need?

The **skills** carpenters need to be successful at work is carpentry, framing, hand tools, power tools, drywall, repair, occupational health and safety (OSHA), power saws, customer service and more. They frequently shift between lifting, standing, and kneeling, the result of which can be tiring. Those who work outdoors are subject to variable weather conditions, which may limit a carpenter's ability to work.

**Watch a video about a day in the life of a carpenter:** [wfsca.co/woodworkers](http://wfsca.co/woodworkers)

### What is the training like with the Carpenters Union?

Apprentices advance every 6 months and each advancement comes with a pay increase. Receive nationally recognized industry certification for a wide array of specialties. Training is always being updated to ensure the latest techniques, tools, and cutting-edge technology are utilized, including state of the art laser layout systems, total station and construction software programs.

*The benefits of being a Central South Carpenter or Southern States Millwright:*

- ✚ All apprenticeship classes and training are provided at no cost to the student
- ✚ Earn a good hourly rate during the apprenticeship, and receive raises as you progress
- ✚ Receive on-the-job training with experienced journeymen
- ✚ Learn from seasoned instructors with years of experience in their respective fields
- ✚ Receive certification in the particular course of study selected





# Electricians Union

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## Contact Information:

Austin Electrical Training Alliance  
4000 Caven Rd | Austin, TX 78744  
ustineta.org  
512-389-3024

### What do electricians do?

**Electricians** install, maintain, and repair electrical power, wiring, fixtures, communications, lighting, and control systems. Inspect electrical components, such as transformers and circuit breaker and identify electrical problems using a variety of testing devices. Make sure they are maintaining local and state electrical code and regulations. Also, Electricians will read blueprints and technical diagrams.

### Where do electricians work?

Electricians work **indoors and outdoors** at homes, businesses, factories, and construction sites. Electricians may work installing electrical systems in newly constructed buildings or may work maintaining and repairing electrical systems and equipment in existing buildings. At jobsites, Electricians may work in cramped spaces or at great heights and can travel to many different jobsites with their work. Many electricians work alone but may also work with a team. They may work with building engineers and architects to create an electrical system for new construction.

### What skills do electricians need?

Electricians **read blueprints**, which include technical diagrams of electrical systems. They need the ability to use different kinds of **hand tools and power tools**. While troubleshooting, electricians may use ammeters, voltmeters, thermal scanners, and cable testers to find problems and ensure that components are working properly. Electricians need to be **problem solvers** with troubleshooting and critical thinking skills, who can see how to install, maintain, diagnose, and repair electrical systems. Also, Electricians need to be **physically fit**. **Color-vision is also a necessity** in viewing different colored wires.

### Watch a video about a day in the life as an electrician:

[wfscs.co/electricians](http://wfscs.co/electricians)



# Electricians Union

## Contact Information:

Austin Electrical Training Alliance  
4000 Caven Rd | Austin, TX 78744  
austineta.org  
512-389-3024



### What is the training like with the Electricians Union?

This apprenticeship program contains a **5-year schedule** of classroom, hands-on and on-the-job training to satisfy the number of training hours (8,000) required to test for your **Journeyman license with the state of Texas.**



Throughout the 5-year program, you will work for one of the participating electrical contractors earning a percentage of the negotiated Journeyman wage.



Once you have completed the Apprenticeship program and obtained your state of Texas Journeyman license, you will have the opportunity to work for one of the signatory contractors as a Journeyman electrician.



The curriculum and training of the Apprenticeship program will prepare you for the opportunity to work as a **foreman**. Foremen manage other journeymen, construction wiremen, construction electricians, and apprentices.



For those wishing to advance further, they can test for their **Master Electrician license**, once they have an additional 4,000 hours of work hours as a Journeyman.



# Plumbers and Pipefitters Union

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## Contact Information:

Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 286  
Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee  
814 Airport Blvd | Austin, TX  
local286.org  
512-385-1817

### What do plumbers and pipefitters do?

**Plumbers** install and repair water, gas, and other piping systems that could be in homes, factories, and even specialized plumbers in hospitals. Pipefitters will install and maintain pipes that may contain gas, chemicals, or acids. **Pipefitters** will normally be in industry, manufacturing, and commercial settings—not always in your home. Plumbers and pipefitters are also often **welders** and can become **HVAC technicians**, too.

### Where do plumbers and pipefitters work?

Plumbers and Pipefitters could work in a multitude of places depending on the project they are assigned to. For example, plumbers could work **in homes, businesses or factories** that could vary in size and need, while pipefitters would be seen working more in **building companies**, heating and air ventilation and oil plants.

### What skills do plumbers and pipefitters need?

Plumbers and Pipefitters need a multitude of physical and soft skills to **complete the task efficiently** and effectively. Plumbers and Pipefitters need skills such as, good communication, good physical strength, **troubleshooting skills**, mechanical skills, **customer service and attention to detail**. Each position will come with its own requirements.

**Watch a video about a day in the life as a plumber:** [wfsca.co/plumbers](https://wfsca.co/plumbers)





# Plumbers and Pipefitters Union

## Contact Information:

Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 286  
Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee  
814 Airport Blvd | Austin, TX  
local286.org  
512-385-1817

### What is the training like with the Plumbers and Pipefitters Union?



The apprenticeship program requires **five years and includes two distinct parts**: (1) 10,000 hours of **on-the-job training** and (2) **1,225 hours of classroom instruction in subjects related to the trade**.



There is a try-out probation period of 1,000 hours of employment and a review at each level of advancement. The on-the-job phase of training means **employment by a qualified contractor** and enables an apprentice to earn his/her way while learning the trade.



The training committee has the authority and responsibility of transferring the apprentice from one shop or job to another, if necessary, to ensure that he/she receives a wide range of experience in the trade.



Apprentice wage rates are based on standard set percentage of the journeyman rate. They start at 55% of the journeyman rate for the first year and increase twice each year for the remaining four-year period provided the apprentice maintains satisfactory progress in his/her development.



# Sheet Metal Union

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## Contact Information:

SMART Local 67  
813 Airport Blvd. Austin, TX  
smart-local67.org  
512-389-2338

### What do sheet metal workers do?

**Sheet metal workers** Sheet metal workers produce vital services to a city. The products that they make go to market but they also work on very basic but important services: they ensure that the air we breath is of **quality**, and they work on transportation systems. The skilled craft persons take ordinary types of flat metal and make them into **specialized products for various duct and ventilation systems**, architectural and **specialized metal fabrication**. What makes the sheet metal trade unique is that it's the only trade that designs, manufactures and installs their own products.

### Where do sheet metal workers work?

**Sheet metal fabricators** usually work in **manufacturing plants and small shops**. Others may work on constructions sites. The work environment may be noisy or dusty. Some constructions sites may place sheet metals at high altitude.

### What skills do sheet metal workers need?

**Detail oriented**, dexterity, mechanical skills, physical strength to name a few. Sheet metal workers also use very technical skills so there is a learning curve to the trade. They central-ize around being able to use **specialized tools that cut, roll, bend and shape pieces** to make many different objects to include: ductwork, airplane wings and car bodies, refrigeration units, medical tables and storage units, building facades, steel sheets, tubing and signs!

### Watch a video about a day in the life as a sheet metal worker:

[wfsca.co/sheetmetal](http://wfsca.co/sheetmetal)

Learn about the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation workers (SMART, for short): [smartswgcrc.org](http://smartswgcrc.org)



# Sheet Metal Union

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## Contact Information:

SMART Local 67

813 Airport Blvd. Austin, TX

[smart-local67.org](http://smart-local67.org)

512-389-2338

## What is the training like with the Sheet Metal Union?



Most construction sheet metal workers learn their trade through 4- or 5-year apprenticeships, which include both paid on-the-job training and related technical instruction.



Apprentices learn construction basics such as blueprint reading, math, building code requirements, and safety and first aid practices. Welding may be included as part of the training.



Some workers start out as helpers before entering apprenticeships. Apprenticeship programs are sponsored by unions and businesses.



The basic qualifications for entering an apprenticeship program are being 18 years old and having a high school diploma or the equivalent. After completing an apprenticeship program, sheet metal workers are considered journey workers who are qualified to perform tasks on their own.





# Fire Sprinkler Fitters Union

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## Contact Information:

Sprinkler Fitters Local 669  
PO Box 831 | La Coste, TX 78039  
[sprinklerfitters669.org](http://sprinklerfitters669.org)  
410-381-4300

### What do fire sprinkler fitters do?

A Sprinkler Fitter's main work is to **install Fire Protection systems**. They have to build underground supply piping that connects to an overhead piping system that allows for suppression of fire.

### Where do fire sprinkler fitters work?

They may work as foreman on a **construction site**, may go into being superintendent or management within a company.

### What skills do fire sprinkler fitters need?

**Technical skills:** using tools and equipment properly, for example, pipe wrenches, pipe threading machines, **welding equipment** and man-lifts.

### Watch a video about a day in the life as a sprinkler fitter:

[wfsca.co/sprinklerfitters](http://wfsca.co/sprinklerfitters)





# Fire Sprinkler Fitters Union

## Contact Information:


Sprinkler Fitters Local 669  
PO Box 831 | La Coste, TX 78039  
sprinklerfitters669.org  
410-381-4300


### What is the training like with the Fire Sprinkler Fitters Union?


 You can join through the apprenticeship program. The on-the-job training program through Local is **5 years long**.

 Many of the members of the union perform **Fire Pump tests as well as Electrical Safety training**. There is also safety training that every member must go through for use of tools and equipment. You need complete classroom training all 5 years.

 The program requires **18 classes a year on Saturdays** for the duration of the apprenticeship program. Road Sprinkler Fitters Local Union 669 is a nationwide local union. This gives the members of Local 669 the **flexibility to work in** almost any part of the United States they would like to seek employment.

 The career of the Sprinkler Fitter can provide a range of opportunities for achievement. Once an apprentice successfully completes the apprenticeship program and becomes a Journeyman, many opportunities lie ahead.

 You can work as a foreman, move up to superintendent or even move into management with a company.

 On the other hand, you can strive to continue building on the most respected labor unions in the construction industry. Being identified as a Sprinkler Fitter is both rewarding and fulfilling.





# Insulators Union

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## Contact Information:

International Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers - Local 87  
486 N. Krueger Ave | New Braunfels, TX 78310  
[Insulators87.org/training.html](http://Insulators87.org/training.html)  
830-626-8088

### What do insulators do?

Insulators and fire-stop mechanics ensure that the buildings you live and work in, as well as visit, are **safe from fire hazards, cool in the summer and warm in the winter**. They fill the space between wall studs and ceiling joists, workers either unroll, cut, fit, and staple batts of **insulation**. Mechanical insulators apply insulation to equipment, pipes, or duct-work in many types of buildings.

### Where do insulators work?

Insulators **generally work indoors**, though mechanical insulators work indoors or outdoors, sometimes in extreme temperatures. These workers spend a lot of time bending and kneeling, sometimes in confined spaces. Over half of the mechanical insulation workers work for building equipment contractors.

### What skills do insulators need?

**Ability to work at heights.** Insulators may be required to work high on ladders or scaffolds to install or remove insulation. **Dexterity.** To install insulation, insulators often must reach overhead, sometimes while confined in spaces where maneuvering is difficult. **Math skills.** Insulators need to measure the equipment or areas they are insulating and to calculate the amount and dimensions of insulation needed. **Mechanical skills.** Insulators must be adept at using a variety of hand tools and power tools to install insulation. **Physical stamina.** Insulators spend much of the workday standing, kneeling, and bending in uncomfortable positions.

**Watch videos about a day in the life as an insulator:** [wfscs.co/insulators](http://wfscs.co/insulators)



# Insulators Union

## Contact Information:

International Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers - Local 87  
486 N. Krueger Ave | New Braunfels, TX 78310  
[Insulators87.org/training.html](http://Insulators87.org/training.html)  
830-626-8088

### What is the training like with the Insulators Union?



Insulators who handle and remove asbestos must be trained by programs accredited by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and some states require a license for asbestos abatement.



**Local 87 offers a four-year apprenticeship program.**



The Insulators Unions committed to providing a supply of **trained insulation and fire-stop mechanics** with the competitive skills necessary to meet industry needs now and in the future.



The goal of the program is to provide the highest level of training to apprentices, that they may assume positions as **fully-qualified journeyman** ready to meet the professional challenges of the insulation and fire-stop industry.



**The program is structured for entry-level workers**, as well as for insulation and fire-stop workers employed within the industry who wish to upgrade their skills and advance to journeyman status, at the same time benefiting from membership in the Insulators and Allied Workers Union.





# Iron Workers Union

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## Contact Information:

Iron Workers Local 482  
2201 Riverside Farms Rd | Austin, TX 78741  
ironworkers482.org  
512-386-5661

**What do iron workers do?** There are different sectors of iron working and careers that you can have within the industry, which includes: structural, ornamental, reinforcing, rigging and machinery moving. **Structural Ironworkers** work mainly on industrial, commercial, and large residential buildings by unloading, erecting, and connecting fabricated iron beams to create the structure's skeleton. They also build towers, bridges, and stadiums. **Ornamental Ironworkers** install metal windows, stairways, catwalks, doors, gratings, fencing, railings, elevator fronts, and building entrances. **Reinforcing Ironworkers** fabricate and place steel bars, known as rebar, in concrete forms to reinforce structures, as well as install tendons or cables along reinforcing steel. **Rigging and Machinery Moving Ironworkers** load, unload, move and set machinery. They operate power hoists, cranes, derricks, forklifts and aerial lifts. Ironworkers in each sector use **welding and burning equipment** to secure their work to the structures and can be tested to be designated a certified welder.

**Where do iron workers work?** Ironworkers work in several different sectors, usually on **tall structures at high elevations**. Because of this it is important to have a good sense of balance and be alert to potential dangers to themselves and others. The work is mainly outside in most weather conditions.

**What skills do iron workers need?** For Ironworkers, having **above average physical strength** is necessary to work with the heavy and bulky materials used. Having a great deal of upper body strength is needed for twisting, turning, and awkward postures of the back during your work. As you are working in **high places, good agility and balance** are needed. Also, it is necessary to be able to work as a team, as well as meet rigid standards and deadlines. Classes that are useful to the preparation to an iron working career are: Mathematics, Drafting and blueprint reading, Construction Technology, Shop Classes, and Welding.

**Watch a video about a day in the life of an iron worker:** [wfscs.co/ironworker](https://wfscs.co/ironworker)



# Iron Workers Union

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## Contact Information:

Iron Workers Local 482  
2201 Riverside Farms Rd | Austin, TX 78741  
[ironworkers482.org](http://ironworkers482.org)  
512-385-2500

### What is the training like with the Iron Workers Union?



The ironworker apprenticeship program is a comprehensive and effective education and training program.



The Iron Workers Local 482 apprenticeship program is a **3-year program**, including a requirement of 204 hours of classroom related training each year and safety training with OSHA Authorized Construction Trainers.



Specifically, Rigging and Machinery Moving Ironworkers will need knowledge of fiber line, wire rope, hoisting equipment and proper hand signals.



Ironworkers also need welding and burning equipment training and can be tested to be designated a certified welder.



Blueprint and drafting reading are part of the training as well.





# Laborers' International Union of North America

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## Contact Information:

LIUNA Local 1095  
8814 Tradeway | San Antonio, TX 78217  
liuna1095.org  
210-805-8326

## What do laborers do?

Members are experienced **Construction Craft Laborers** (CCL) that rely on a diverse set of skills, performed on a wide variety of jobsites. These members **build roads, bridges, tunnels, transit, water, and energy systems** as well as work on **building, demolition, and renovation projects**. Members are skilled in general construction, concrete placement, roadway construction, site preparation, pipelaying, erosion control, hoisting and rigging, OSHA safety, permit-required confined space, rough terrain forklift operation, trenching and excavation safety, erecting turbines, and solar panel installation.

## Where do laborers work?

Members assist in the construction and maintenance of **power plants and substations**, dig trenches for lines, and **repair roads** after line installation, and **build supporting infrastructure** such as oil and gas pipelines.

## What skills do laborers need?

Members start out as an apprentice and through training and work experience can move into journey worker positions. Members have opportunities for advancement and a ladder to the middle-class. Must have soft skills such as being reliable, on time and good teamwork. You will need a valid driver's license, reliable transportation, be able to pass a drug screen, and own a pair of work boots.

Watch a video about a day in the life of a laborer: [wfscs.co/LIUNA](https://wfscs.co/LIUNA)



# Laborers' International Union of North America

## Contact Information:

LIUNA Local 1095

8814 Tradeway | San Antonio, TX 78217

liuna1095.org

210-805-8326



### What is the training like with the Laborers Union?

LIUNA Local 1095 is an affiliate of the Laborers' International Union covering 66 counties in central and SW Texas. LIUNA Local 1095 is a collective bargaining agent in matters of rates of pay, wages, fringes, hours of employment, and other conditions of employment for their members.



LIUNA members are united through collective bargaining agreements which help us earn **family-supporting pay, good benefits, and the opportunity for advancement** and better lives.



Laborers performs various duties on commercial constructions sites throughout central and SW Texas. They offer over **400 modules of training** which allows us to plug and play many variations applicable to project needs.



A few requirements: pass drug test, must have reliable transportation, valid ID or driver's license, proper work attire, 18 or older with good work ethic.



**Laborers do not require a diploma or GED** for general membership. However, our Department of Labor registered apprenticeship program which is a two (2) year program does require a diploma or GED. The Southwest Laborers' Training and Apprenticeship fund carries third party accreditation's from OSHA and ANSI making our certifications honored nationwide. Persons dispatched to their projects have the ability to "climb the ladder" by pairing daily tasks on the job and classroom time to acquire proper certifications



# Training Locations Map

The map below indicates the training location or office for each union training program

## Locations in Southeast Austin



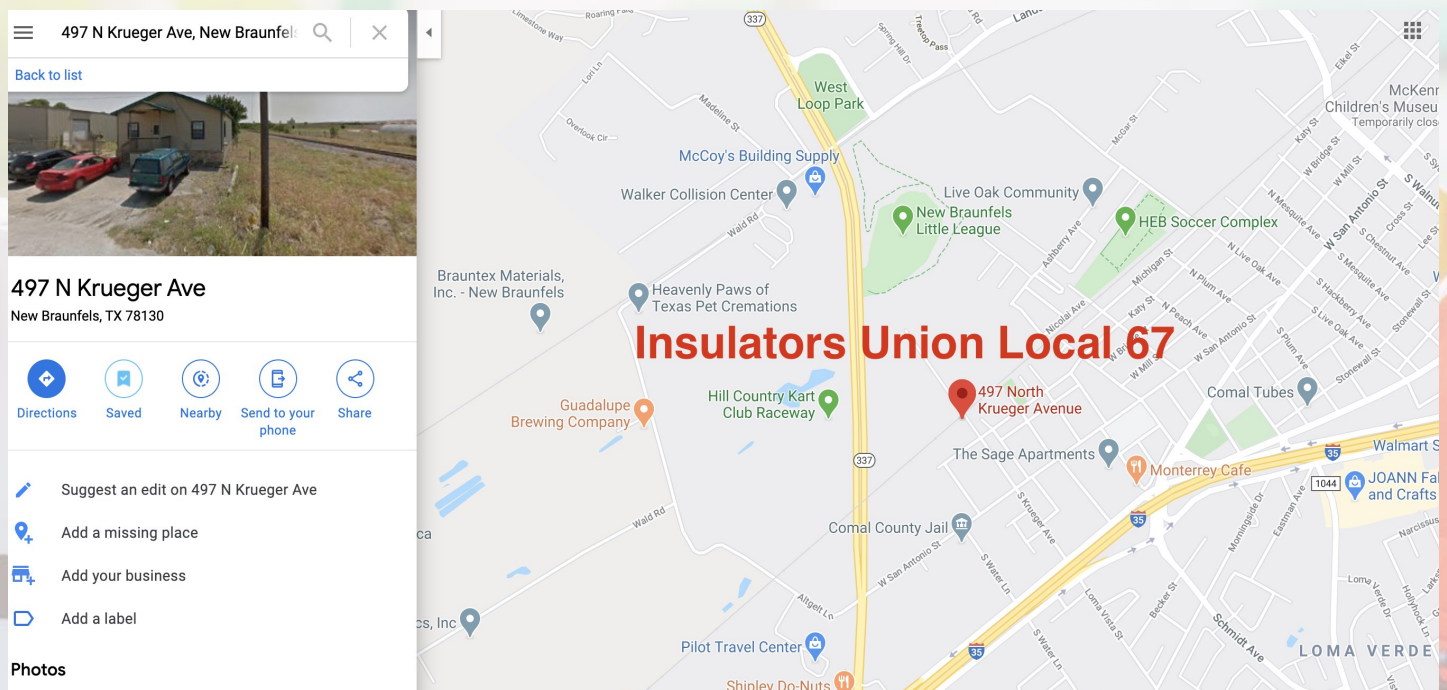
# Training Locations Map

The map below indicates the training location or office for each union training program

## Locations in North Austin



## Locations in New Braunfels





# Questions to Ask Apprenticeship Programs

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## ***Questions for you to ask the Apprenticeship Programs:***

What is the average wage of your apprentices in Austin?

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What documents do I need to bring to enroll into an apprenticeship program?

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When does training begin for the program?

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What is the deadline to apply for the training program?

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Who do I contact to enroll in an apprenticeship program?

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# Data Sources

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**Austin Electrical Alliance:** [austineta.org](http://austineta.org)

**Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook:** [bls.gov/ooh](http://bls.gov/ooh)

**Electrician Career Profile:** [bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/electricians.htm](http://bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/electricians.htm)

**Carpenters Local 1266:** [www.ubctexastraining.com](http://www.ubctexastraining.com)

**Construction Carpenters 47-2031:** [onetonline.org/link/custom/47-2031.01](http://onetonline.org/link/custom/47-2031.01)

**IBEW Local 520:** [ibew520.org](http://ibew520.org)

**Laborers Local 1095:** [liuna1095.org](http://liuna1095.org)

**Local 286 Apprenticeships:** [local286.org/apprenticeship](http://local286.org/apprenticeship)

**Local 669 Sprinkler Fitter:** [sprinklerfitters669.org/jatc.aspx](http://sprinklerfitters669.org/jatc.aspx)

**Insulators 67:** [insulators87.org](http://insulators87.org)

**Iron Workers:** [ironworkers.org](http://ironworkers.org)

**LIUNA:** [liuna.org](http://liuna.org)

**Local 482 Iron Workers:** [ironworkers482.org](http://ironworkers482.org)

**Plumbers and Pipefitters:** [truity.com/career-profile/plumber-pipefitter-or-steamfitter](http://truity.com/career-profile/plumber-pipefitter-or-steamfitter)

**SMART Local 67:** [smart-local67.org/sheet-metal](http://smart-local67.org/sheet-metal)

**Where Carpenters Work:** [collegegrad.com/careers/carpenters](http://collegegrad.com/careers/carpenters)

# Contact Us

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**We'd love to hear from you!**

Tell us about your experience as an apprentice, your new career, or any other good news you want to share about your professional journey!

**Send us a message:** [k-12awareness@wfscapitalarea.com](mailto:k-12awareness@wfscapitalarea.com)

**Visit our website:** [wfscapitalarea.com](http://wfscapitalarea.com)

**Connect on:**



**WORKFORCE**  
SOLUTIONS Capital Area

*Connecting People to Jobs*

**americanjobcenter**

