

WE BUILD IOWA

A union apprenticeship will give you the tools that you need to succeed. Two years ago, I barely knew how to read a tape measure, but the journeymen I worked with were willing to teach me and mold me into an Iron Worker. If we can learn one new thing a day, we're on the right track to building up the next generation of tradespeople.

~CATHERINE MARES
IRON WORKERS LOCAL 67



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Carpenters are paid well, so I can support myself financially. I love working with my hands. I also like knowing how to do things myself and not relying on other people. Carpentry has great opportunities, such as becoming a foreman or contractor or working for the union. There is always something to work toward.

~LILLIAN NAUMAN
CARPENTERS LOCAL 678



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I completed a three-year low-voltage electrical apprenticeship to become a voice data video technician. I am active in my union women's committee and serve on the Iowa Electrical Examining Board. Before joining the trades, I worked in finance, but I missed working with my hands. I enjoy the problem-solving aspects of my work, as well as the camaraderie.

*~AMANDA COOLING
ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 405*



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After working at a desk job for five years, I knew I wanted make a change and learn a trade. I visited the Plumbers and Pipefitters' training center, and was impressed by their facilities and the pride they had in their work. I became an apprentice, and I have been very well-supported. They are always there to make sure I understand and to help me learn.

**~SHAWNA GRITTMANN
PLUMBERS/PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 125**



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Before I joined the trades, I was a food service manager. My pay was maxed out at \$15.45 per hour. I had built sets for theater in high school, and some friends encouraged me to consider the trades. I visited the Laborers' training facility. The coordinator saw how hard I worked, and he trained me. I graduated from our 4-year program in two and a half years, and became a foreman five months later.

*~STEFANIE WARNICK
LABORERS LOCAL 43*



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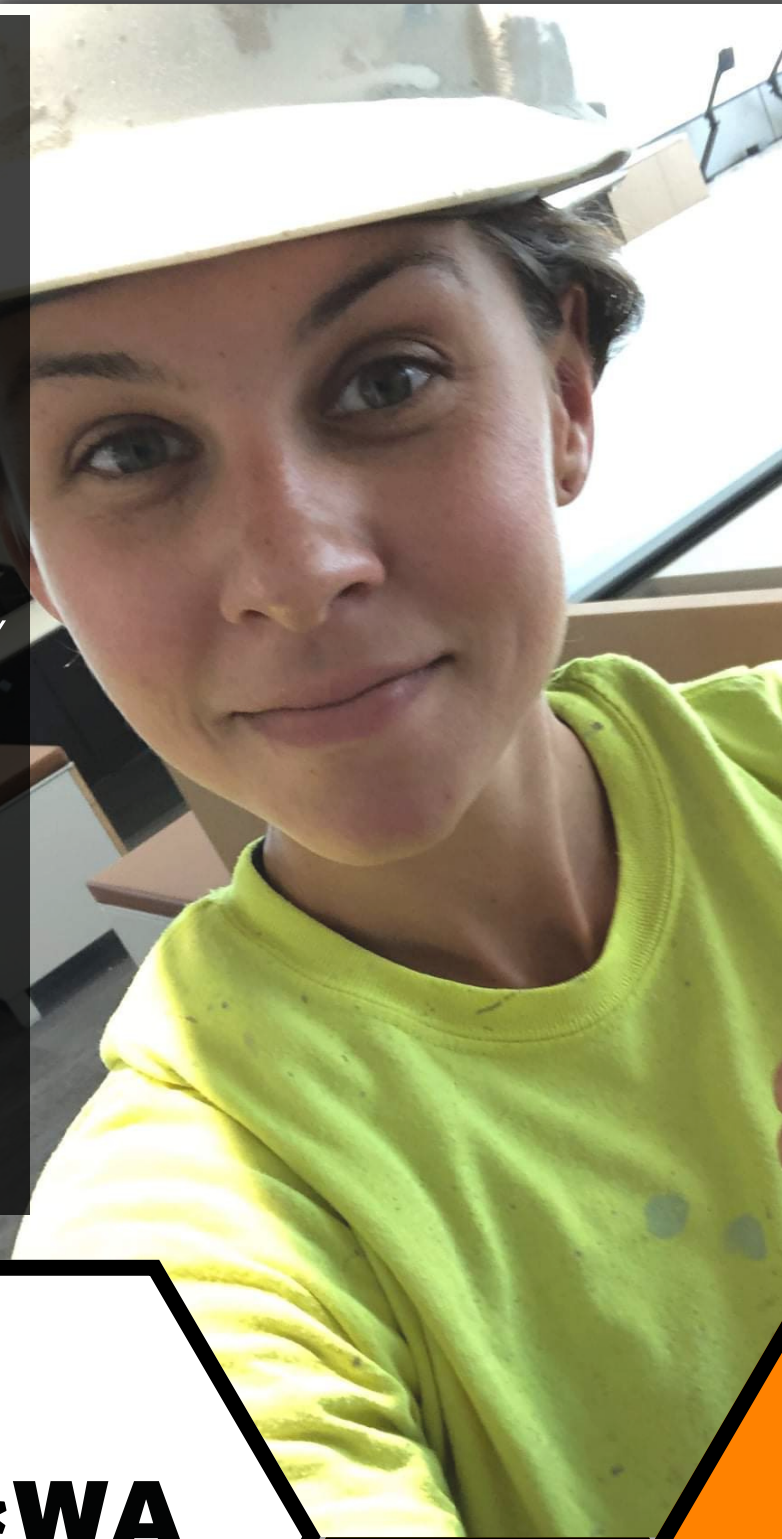
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I originally had no idea about this opportunity. I went to college but it wasn't right for me. I found the trades, went through the apprenticeship, and paid off my student loans. Within three years, I was making good money, had health insurance for me and my family, and a pension. Joining this trade is seriously one of the best things I've ever done in my life. I'm now the apprenticeship training coordinator for our region.

~JUSTINE GOULDER

TRAINING COORDINATOR, PAINTERS DC 81



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