

APPRENTICESHIP

Bay Area Construction Pre-Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship Guide Book Released

Beli Acharya

Executive Director, Construction Trades Workforce Initiative

Far too many people in the Bay Area are unaware of career opportunities in the union construction trades. As we work with community members, time after time, we hear, what is a union apprenticeship program? How do I get in? Which pre-apprenticeship programs are out there? How can they support me? And from employers, how can I access a qualified pool of diverse workers?



Alameda . Contra Costa . Marin . Napa . San Francisco . San Mateo . Santa Clara . Solano

Bay Area Construction Apprenticeship Guidebook

CTWI
Construction Trades Workforce Initiative

Accessing this information should be easy, but it is not. Union construction careers and their top-of-the-line apprenticeship programs train workers to become highly-skilled, six-figure-earning construction workers through a debt-free, technologically-advanced education. These earn-as-you-learn programs pay family-sustaining wages and provide health care coverage and retirement benefits from day one.

In just the Bay Area alone, there are more than 50 local unions with over 35 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committees (JATC), each with its own unique application process to get in. For those who are unfamiliar with construction unions, researching the different trades and their requirements can serve as a barrier to application. This is a major problem because community members need access to family-sustaining

careers that allow them to live in the Bay Area. Unions need more members from diverse communities, and contractors need well-trained, safe and productive workers.

In response to these challenges, Construction Trades Workforce Initiative (CTWI), the nonprofit partner of the Building and Construction Trades Councils in Alameda, Contra Costa and Napa/Solano Counties, in partnership with the Bay Area Apprenticeship Coordinators Association (BAACA), has researched and produced a Pre-Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship Guidebook. The guidebook provides comprehensive information on

requirements, application steps, wages, contact information and more for each trade across the Bay Area—ALL IN ONE PLACE.

Through the release of this guidebook, our hope is to demystify the process of getting into the trades, and to ensure that community members can access union apprenticeship programs that train highly skilled American workers—workers who build the roads, bridges, schools, and energy systems that keep our country safe, productive and competitive.

The guidebook was released in April and is now available to the public, including school districts, community based organizations, workforce boards and contractors, in both hard copy and online versions. For more information contact Beli@ctwi-btca.org