



**MAKING A
CAREER IN
SKILLED
TRADES**



A GUIDE TO CAREERS IN SKILLED TRADES FOR THE CHATHAM-KENT AND SARNIA-LAMBTON AREA



Lambton Kent
District School Board

Student Achievement *Community Success*



A CAREER IN SKILLED TRADES

Skilled trades workers build and maintain infrastructure like our homes, schools, hospitals, roads, farms and parks. They keep industries running and perform many services we rely on every day, like hairstyling, food preparation or social services.

Benefits of a career in the skilled trades include:

- in high demand
- great earning potential
- uses cutting-edge technology
- many paths to advance
- transferable skills



WAYS TO ENTER SKILLED TRADES

- Direct employment into general labour positions
- Pre-apprenticeship programs
- College diplomas
- Union membership and training
- Registered Apprenticeship



IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH

It is important to note, each employer has different expectations. People are encouraged to research requirements of the target employers for each trade. For example: if you are exploring a career as a plumber, connect with local plumbing companies to ask what hiring requirements they have. Some may expect a college diploma, while others prefer to train apprentices. This will provide you with more information for pursuing the next step for training and skills acquisition.

Direct Employment into General Labour positions



This is the simplest way to enter the skilled trades. Many local employers require general labourers in order to keep their businesses running efficiently. These employers are looking for candidates who:

- will be punctual and consistent in their attendance each day
- can take direction and execute tasks as directed by their supervisor
- maintain a safe working environment
- are eager to learn new skills
- can work as part of a team

Employers who require general labourers report that:

- they are willing and able to train employees for their job site specific duties; no prior experience necessarily required
- work ethic and attendance are key factors to success
- there are opportunities for career advancement within their company

The most common ways to find local general labour opportunities include:

- online employment websites (indeed, monster, workopolis etc.)
- job bank (Government of Canada job search tool)
- local Newspapers
- social media
- Employment Ontario offices
- word of mouth

Chatham Goodwill Career Centre

300 Lacroix Street Chatham
519-354-4400

www.goodwillekl.com

St. Clair Employment Centre (2 locations)

60 McNaughton Ave, Wallaceburg 519-628-5269
1001 Grand Ave W, Chatham 519-354-9100

<https://stclairemploymentcentre.com/index.html>

Chatham Employment Resource Centre

240 King Street West, Chatham
519-436-1123

<https://www.chatham-kent.ca/community-services/jobs/employment-resource-centres>

Adult Language and Learning

(Newcomer support and pre-employment services)
240 King Street West, Chatham

<http://www.adultlanguageandlearning.ca/>

Walpole Island Employment and Training

519-627-7148

<https://walpoleislandfirstnation.ca/employment-and-training/>

Delaware Economic Development and Training

14763 School House Line
519-692-4175

<http://delawarenation.on.ca/economic-development-and-training/>

Sarnia Goodwill Career Centre

1249 London Road, Sarnia
519-332-4333

www.goodwillekl.com

Community Employment Services

4248 Oil Heritage Road, Petrolia
519-882-4333

<https://www.lambtoncollege.ca/CES/>

Community Links & Employment Resource Centre

150 Christina St. North, Bayside Mall, Sarnia
519-344-9303

<https://www.ercsarnia.ca/>

YMCA Learning and Careers Centre

(Newcomer support and pre-employment services)
660 Oakdale Ave, Sarnia
519-336-5950

http://ymcaswo.ca/p/638/1/614/orgid/22850/t/YMCA_Community_Initiatives_Immigrant_Services

Four Winds Community Employment Services

6247 Indian Lane, Kettle & Stoney Point
519-786-6780

<https://kettlepoint.org/four-winds-community-employment-services/>

PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

The Pre-Apprenticeship training programs are generally offered by colleges or training delivery agents. These programs can be up to 52 weeks in duration and may include Level 1 Apprenticeship in-school training or relevant apprenticeship training, relevant safety training and possibly a work placement. Programs may also include trade readiness, employment preparation and academic upgrading. There is generally little to no cost for these limited enrolment programs, and each program has its own unique eligibility criteria. Many of these programs are targeted to unemployed/underemployed youths and adults, indigenous peoples, newcomers or women. To find a current list of Pre-Apprenticeship training programs, contact the local Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development office.

Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development Office

Chatham Office

519-354-2766
870 Richmond St W

Sarnia Office

519-542-7705
Bayside Mall, 150 Christina St N, Suite 105



COLLEGE DIPLOMA

Many colleges and private colleges offer diploma programs that allow students to gain knowledge and skills related to a specific trade. These programs are an excellent way to get hands-on learning for people who have no prior experience with the skills required for the trade. Some college diploma programs also include a cooperative education work placement. For more information, explore the offerings at www.ontariocolleges.ca

UNION MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING

A union is an organized group of workers who collectively use their strength to have a voice in their workplace. Through a union, workers have a right to impact wages, work hours, benefits, workplace health and safety, job training and other work-related issues. Some unions do offer apprenticeship training themselves, while others provide workplace support.

Each union in the Chatham-Kent, Sarnia-Lambton area operates a little differently. Be sure to research the unions you are interested in to learn more about their application processes and membership benefits.

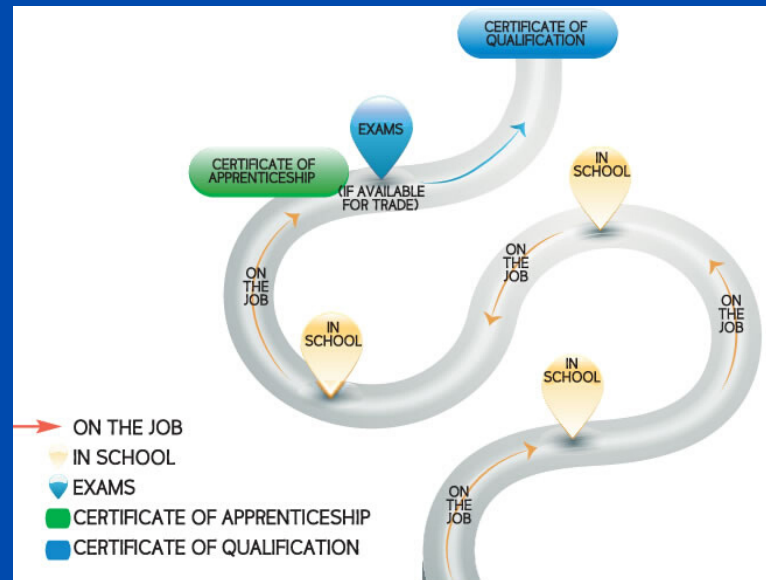
***Other unions related to the skilled trades may exist but are not listed below

<p>Boiler Makers: Local Union No. 128 (Boilermakers, Iron, Shipbuilders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers) 128 Business Park Drive, Sarnia ON https://128.boilermaker.ca/apprenticeship/</p>	<p>Bricklayers and Tile Setters: Local Union No. 23 (Brick and Allied Craft Union of Canada) 454 Exmouth Street, Sarnia http://bacu.ca/bacu-locals/local-23-sarnia/</p>
<p>Carpenters: Local Union NO. 1256 (Carpenters and Joiners) 100 Business Park Drive, Sarnia https://thecarpentersunion.ca/apprenticeship/ (website still under construction)</p>	<p>Cement Masons: Local Union No. 598 (Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons) 222Rowntree Dairy Road Unit 1, Woodbridge, ON https://www.local598.ca/home.html</p>
<p>Electricians: Local Union No. 530 (Electrical Workers) 701 Ontario Street, Sarnia ON http://lu530.com/leac-application/</p>	<p>Insulators: Local Union No. 95 (Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos workers) 90C Centurian Drive, Unit 7C, Markham ON http://insulators95.com/career</p>
<p>Ironworkers: Local Union No. 700 (Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Ironworkers) 4069 County Road 46, Maidstone ON http://ironworkerslocal700.com/index.html</p>	<p>Labourers: Local Union No. 1089 Labourers International Union of North America 1255 Confederation Street, Sarnia ON http://local1089.ca/index.php</p>
<p>Millwrights: Local Union No. 1592 (Carpenters and Joiners) 780 Phillip Street East, Sarnia ON https://www.millwrightlocal1592.com/careers</p>	<p>Operating Engineers: Local Union No. 793 (Operating Engineers) 1390A Lougar Ave, Sarnia ON https://www.iuoelocal793.org/</p>
<p>Painters: District Council 46, Local Union 1494-1590 (Painters and Allied Trades) 1151 Confederation Street, Sarnia ON https://www.iupat.on.ca/</p>	<p>Plasterers: Local Union No. 124 (Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons) 30 Concourse Gage, Suite 32, Nepean ON https://www.opcmia.org/about-us/</p>
<p>Pipefitters: Local Union No. 663 (Plumbing and Pipefitting) 1151 Confederation Street, Sarnia ON https://local663.com/apprentice-program/#requirements</p>	<p>Sheet Metal: Local Union No. 235 (Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation workers) 1695 Gladstone Ave, Windsor ON http://www.smwia-local235.com/apprenticeship/</p>
<p>CLAC (Various Trades depending on geographic area) 455 Keil Dr S, Chatham, ON N7M 6M4 www.clac.ca</p>	<p>Unifor (Private sector union representing various trades) 200 Riverview Drive, Chatham, ON N7M 5Z8 www.unifor.org</p>

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP

An apprenticeship is a hands-on learning opportunity where the apprentice works closely with a journeyman learning first-hand, the skills required to be successful in a chosen trade. A successful apprenticeship leads to the apprentice becoming a certified journeyman in a specific trade.

Apprenticeship training takes between two to five years, where the apprentice completes cycles of on-the-job paid training and in-school learning. Apprentices and their sponsor journeyman track their required skills in a log book and a provincial exam is written at the end of the last cycle of the in-school session.



Successful candidates earn a Certificate of Qualification.

KEYS TO AN APPRENTICESHIP

- Find an employer who is willing and able to register and train them
- Connecting with their Training Consultant, who works for the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development who acts like an apprenticeship guidance counsellor
- Remain employed for the duration of the apprenticeship (if lay-off or termination occurs, a new employer must be found and new training agreements must be created)
- Complete the necessary in-school training blocks as directed by the Training Consultant
- Successful exam results and acquirement of the Certificate of Qualification



PREPARING FOR APPRENTICESHIP

- build a Resume and Cover Letter
- talk to people working in the trade
- search out union information if applicable
- search for an employer who hires apprentices
- explore skilled trades websites
- fill out applications



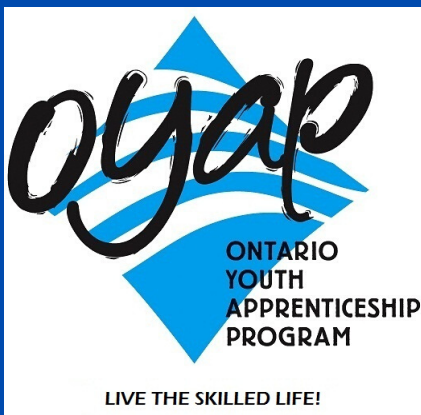
Were you in OYAP in high school? You may be able to use your skills and hours towards your on-the-job hours. Talk to a Training Consultant for more information. They will require a copy of your OYAP letter of completion.

HELPFUL WEB RESOURCES

Ontario



www.ontario.ca/page/skilled-trades



www.oyap.com

CANADIAN
APPRENTICESHIP
FORUM



FORUM
CANADIEN SUR
L'APPRENTISSAGE

caf-fca.org/apprenticeship-101/



myBlueprint

www.myblueprint.ca/lkdsb

*Real
talk*

realtalk.careers/web#/home



www.jobtalks.org

CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION

www.careersinconstruction.ca



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