



## What is a Union Carpenter?

The carpenter constructs, remodels, alters, and repairs structures of wood or metal in combination with brick, block, concrete, or iron. The carpenter is an integral craft involved with a variety of buildings, bridges, and industrial facilities. The carpenter works with a multitude of materials including wood and metal studs, plywood, fiberboard, masonite, pressed wood, plastic, and metals. Carpenter duties include, but are not limited to, concrete forms, framing, interior and exterior sheathing and finishes, scaffold erection, temporary structures and platforms. Carpenters also work with electricians, plumbers, bricklayers, ironworkers, and other craft workers in construction. The carpenter may specialize in segments of the trade such as form builder, bridge builder, finish carpenter, interior systems carpenter, or scaffold erector. The carpenter's work is physical in nature, usually outside and requires good health. A carpenter must also be willing to travel. A union carpenter is a dues paying member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters (UBC).

## Union Carpenter Apprenticeship & Apprenticeship

A carpenter apprentice is an entry level union member who is learning while working under the guidance of a skilled journey-level worker known as a journeyman. They work both indoors and outdoors, and in all kinds of weather. Construction areas are frequently muddy, dusty, dirty, and noisy. The apprentice must lift and carry building materials, climb ladders and scaffolding, stand, stoop, and often work in cramped or awkward positions. Generally they work a forty-hour work week.

**Apprenticeship**  
***"The ORIGINAL 4***  
***Year DEGREE"***



The Carpenter Apprenticeship is on-the-job training (OJT) combined with related supplemental instruction (RSI), most commonly known as classroom training. The length of a Carpenter Apprenticeship is typically four years. During this time they are required to attend classroom training for a minimum of 160 hours per year and submit records of the on-the-job training portion of their apprenticeship. An inexperienced carpenter apprentice in Montana will earn wages while learning the carpentry trade starting at 80% of a skilled journeyman's rate of pay. Specific journeyman rate of pay varies per project and Collective Bargaining Agreement. The four year apprenticeship is broken down into year levels. Wages increase five percent every year level throughout the apprenticeship. Apprentices must be in compliance and complete upgrade procedures to move up into the next period level. Union sponsored apprenticeships include Health Insurance, Pension, and continuing Skill Training along with provisions found in a union contract.





## Entrance into the Carpenter Apprenticeship Program

Minimum Qualifications are: 1) Be at least 18 years old; 2) High School Diploma, GED or HiSet; 3) Driver's License; 4) Be physically able to perform the work of the trade; 5)

Successfully complete a Rate & Rank Session (only presentation portion for qualified Direct Indenture). Please note that Applicants may use the probationary period to obtain Minimum Qualification items with the exception of the age requirement, upon receiving approval from the Executive Director/Coordinator. Applications are available on line at [www.carpenterstrainingcenter.com](http://www.carpenterstrainingcenter.com). Complete and return the application along with the required documentation. Your application will be held and you will be notified of the next Rate & Rank Session which is typically scheduled the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. Rate & Rank Sessions are held via Conference Call and consist of an information presentation, Q&A, and an interview. When an applicant has successfully completed the Rate & Rank Session, they are scheduled for a *Drug Test*. If a negative Drug Test result is received the applicant is then deemed qualified to be placed on the Statewide Eligibility List. Applicants are called out from this list as employment opportunities become available. Applicants called out from this list become Carpenter Apprentices and enter the Carpenter Apprenticeship Program on the Report to Work Date listed on the Dispatch Sheet.



## Special Characteristics and Tools Used

You will find the following knowledge and abilities useful in the Carpentry trade: accuracy, mechanical aptitude, manual dexterity, form perception, ability to plan work sequences, interest in working with hand and power tools, and the ability to perform a variety of tasks using different materials. This is a sampling of the various tools that are used in the Carpentry trade: hand tools, power tools, surveyor's instruments, lumber mill equipment, plastic welding, acetylene torch, and electric welding. The Carpentry trade requires dependability, professionalism, and the ability to work alone or with others. The Union Carpenters apprenticeship program is seeking individuals who have a desire to make this trade their livelihood.



## Still in High School?

If you are still in High School you may want to consider signing up for these subjects: Basic Mathematics, Geometry, Algebra, Trigonometry, Architectural Drawing, Blueprint Reading, Basic Communication, and a carpentry shop program.

**Our Goal  
is to Produce  
the Best Carpenters  
in the State of Montana**

This Apprenticeship is registered with the Montana Department of Labor & Industry as Montana Statewide Carpenters JATC; Registration #0002031. We take our Affirmative Action Pledge seriously to insure equal opportunity in this Apprenticeship Program and we will not discriminate against apprenticeship applicants or apprentices based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), sexual orientation, genetic information, or because they are an individual with a disability or a person 40 years old or older. Montana Statewide Carpenters JATC will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunity in apprenticeship and will operate the apprenticeship program as required under Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 30.

**Call (406) 443-3255 for more information or visit [www.carpenterstrainingcenter.com](http://www.carpenterstrainingcenter.com)**