Getting There

C = Certificate, A = Associate’s Degree, B = Bachelor’s Degree, G = Graduate Degree

C = Certificate, A = Associate’s Degree

Construction offers opportunities for hands-on work and the chance to build structures from the ground up. This industry is composed of workers who build residential, industrial, and commercial buildings; contractors who build sewers, highways, bridges and other infrastructure projects. It includes people who perform skilled activities such as carpentry, painting, plumbing and electrical work. If you enjoy working with your hands, collaborating on projects and seeing the fruits of your labor materialize; construction could be the career for you!

Step 1: Identify your interests
Compare your interests, skills and work values with construction occupations using Labor Market Information’s Career Explorer:
Visit www.coworkforce.com/lmigateway
• Click on “Services for Individuals”
• Choose “Career Services”
This will take you to “Career Explorer” where you can match your skills to occupations.

Step 2: Explore the construction industry & careers
Learn about high-growth, in-demand careers and what they pay on the LMI Gateway website: www.coworkforce.com/lmigateway
For more information about construction careers: http://www.careeroverview.com/construction-careers.html

Step 3: Find education, training & financial aid
Discover the best education or training institutions for your career goals and how to get money for school at http://www.careeroverview.com/construction-careers.html

Step 4: Find available job openings
http://www.collegeincolorado.org
www.connectingcolorado.com

A Day in the life of...

Kevin Marion, Construction Superintendent Cobb Mechanical, Colorado Springs, CO

Kevin began landscaping as a summer job while still in high school. He found that he liked working outside and enjoyed working with his hands to create a product others could see and admire. When he graduated he decided to find work in construction. He began working in plumbing and pipelining, learning his trade through on-the-job training. This job taught Kevin some important lessons: all work needs to be carefully planned and clear communication is critical to success.

Kevin now works at Cobb Mechanical, a commercial heating, ventilation and air conditioning contractor. As a superintendent, Kevin is responsible for scheduling and supervising the work completed by his crew. He is currently working on a medical building project in Denver. Kevin expects that this job will take about 20 months to complete and that he will need about 100 workers. He began this job by reading the blueprints and planning his work. The real challenge in every job is meeting the project deadlines. He works around form setters, electricians and others, coordinating the efforts of his crew. He maintains daily logs of job site activity to insure communication and follow up. He corresponds with engineers and architects and works with building inspectors. He expects to spend one-half of his time on the job site and the other half in the office.

Looking back over his career, Kevin recommends that anyone interested in construction work take classes in blueprint reading, math, reading and writing because those skills are required for most construction jobs. When Kevin talks about his job, he becomes animated. He clearly likes his work. What does Kevin like best about construction? “Every job is such a learning experience. Each job is different and I really like that!”
Who do you want to be tomorrow?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Average Hourly/Annual Wage</th>
<th>Education/Training</th>
<th>Suggested Programs of Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction Laborers</td>
<td>$14.71 / $30,591</td>
<td>Moderate-term on-the-job training, Apprenticeships</td>
<td>Construction Trades, welding, scaffolding erecting, concrete finishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricians</td>
<td>$23.00 / $47,849</td>
<td>Apprenticeship, Certification</td>
<td>4-year apprenticeship program, with 144 hours of classroom study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenters</td>
<td>$20.03 / $41,660</td>
<td>Apprenticeship, Certification</td>
<td>Vocational-technical school training, Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Line Supervisors</td>
<td>$31.30 / $65,108</td>
<td>Moderate-term on-the-job training, Bachelor's Degree</td>
<td>Construction Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cement Masons &amp; Concrete Finishers</td>
<td>$17.59 / $36,582</td>
<td>Moderate-term on-the-job training, Apprenticeships, Certification</td>
<td>National Concrete Masonry Association Certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretaries &amp; Administrative Assistants, Except Executive</td>
<td>$16.07 / $33,432</td>
<td>Moderate-term on-the-job training, Apprenticeships, Certification</td>
<td>Construction Trades, welding, scaffolding erecting, concrete finishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Operations Managers</td>
<td>$54.99 / $114,385</td>
<td>Bachelor's Degree</td>
<td>Construction Trades, welding, scaffolding erecting, concrete finishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drywall &amp; Ceiling Tile Installers</td>
<td>$17.20 / $35,769</td>
<td>Moderate-term on-the-job training, Apprenticeships</td>
<td>On-the-job training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating, Air Conditioning, &amp; Refrigeration Mechanics &amp; Installers</td>
<td>$22.86 / $47,545</td>
<td>Certification, Associate's Degree</td>
<td>HVAC Certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roofers</td>
<td>$16.30 / $33,898</td>
<td>Moderate-term on-the-job training</td>
<td>On-the-job training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painters</td>
<td>$18.34 / $38,139</td>
<td>Short-term on-the-job training, Apprenticeships</td>
<td>On-the-job training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost Estimators</td>
<td>$29.35 / $61,043</td>
<td>Bachelor's Degree</td>
<td>Construction Trades, welding, scaffolding erecting, concrete finishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Managers</td>
<td>$43.82 / $91,151</td>
<td>Bachelor's Degree</td>
<td>Construction Trades, welding, scaffolding erecting, concrete finishing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apprenticeship

Registered Apprenticeships combine classroom instruction and on-the-job training supervised by journey-level craft persons or trade professionals. Join a Registered Apprenticeship Program and get paid while you go to school!

This industry has many apprenticeships. Here are some examples:

- Carpenter
- Cement Mason
- Construction Equipment Mechanic
- Glazier
- Boilermaker
- Dry Wall Applicator
- Painter
- Plumber
- Pipefitter/Sprinkler Fitter
- Insulation Worker
- Tile Setter
- Electrician
- Terrazzo Worker

For additional information, go to:
www.CareerReadyColorado.org
www.CareerReadyColorado.org/emp/ApprenticesMenu.htm

www.CareerReadyColorado.org