



PARTNER TOOLKIT

K-12 Career Guide

Why choose a career in Transportation, Construction, and Other Skilled Trades?

- **High-demand careers:** Employers are actively hiring skilled workers.
 - **Earn and learn:** Many pathways include paid apprenticeships and on-the-job training.
 - **Career growth:** Build skills, increase your earnings, and advance over time.
 - **Meaningful work:** See the impact of your work in the community every day.
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Career Exploration

Is a Mobility + Infrastructure career a good fit for you?

A career in this industry may be a good fit if...

You enjoy:

- Solving real-world problems and building, repairing, or improving things.
- Working with tools, equipment, technology, or hands-on projects.
- An active workday and enjoy seeing the results of your work.
- Working as part of a team and value safety.

You're comfortable with:

- Working outdoors in heat, cold, or changing weather.
- Climbing ladders, working at heights, or working in confined spaces.
- Standing, kneeling, bending, and lifting tools or materials.
- Early work hours and active job sites.

Target Occupations (Based on Employer Demand)

Explore job duties, wages, and training requirements in these one-pagers:

- [Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters](#)
- [Electricians](#)
- [HVAC](#)
- [Sheet Metal Workers](#)
- [Carpenters](#)
- [General Construction](#)
- [Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics](#)

Additional Resources

- [Climb the Ladder Central Texas](#): Career exploration and prep resources
- [O*NET OnLine - Construction Industry](#): More about in-demand occupations
- [Texas Reality Check](#): Occupation/lifestyle calculator
- [Apprenticeship Process and Timeline](#): Application, interview, and class start

Get connected to internships, entry-level jobs and training programs

- **Current students:** Email the Workforce Solutions Capital Area (WFS) Youth Career Services Team (wioa.youth@wfscapitalarea.com) or K-12 Awareness Team (k-12awareness@wfscapitalarea.com) to learn more about career pathways, available opportunities for work experience, and support services.
 - **Recent grads:** Complete WFS' [Jumpstart Your Career form](#). After submitting the form, you'll be invited to register for a Career Information Session where you'll learn more about available career pathways, connections to employment and support services.
 - **Stay up to date with the** [Austin Infrastructure Academy](#) **and upcoming career expos.**
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Additional Staff Resources

Hype Kits: Hands-On Learning & Exploration [Submit a Check Out Request](#)

We have the following “Hype Kits” to help your students explore M+I careers:

Blueprint Build Kit	Construction Career Scenario Cards
Electrical: • Wiring Circuit Board • Wiring Kit • Wiring Wall Panel • Electrician Career Scenario Cards	VR Headset and Monitor <i>(all simulations available in closed captioning and in Spanish)</i> • Snapshot of simulations aligned with in-demand careers: Automotive Services Technician, Electrician, Carpenter, Construction Laborer, HVAC Technician, Plumber, Pipefitter, and Steamfitter, and more!
Structural Engineering Kit: Bridges & Skyscrapers	
Welding: • Welding Defects Kit • Welding Scenario Cards	

Employer Engagement, Career Events & Presentations

WFS’ K-12 Awareness Team is here to support through:

- **Employer Engagement**
 - Coordination of classroom speakers, lunch and learns, and tabling
 - Convening to inform curriculum design and implementation
- **Career Events**
 - Career fairs
 - Field trips
- **Classroom Presentations & 1:1 Student Consultations** *(in-person & virtual)*
 - Career prep
 - Recognizing soft skills and practicing
 - Resumes and cover letters
 - In-demand occupations and targeted industries
 - And more!

Stay connected: Email WFS’ K-12 Awareness Team (k-12awareness@wfscapitalarea.com) to subscribe to our monthly newsletter. Stay informed about upcoming events, job and internship opportunities, and ways to share career-connected experiences with our employer partners.