

## **Texas A&M University Physical Plant Department Apprenticeship Program**

The Physical Plant Department of Texas A&M University (TAMU) registered an apprenticeship program in 1974 with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training. The program has become one of the primary means of training individuals to work for the Physical Plant Department as qualified technicians in the Building and Utility trades (see below list of TAMU Physical Plant apprenticeship trades).

If you are selected for the apprenticeship program, you will be making a major commitment to the Physical Plant and to yourself. Depending upon your chosen trade, you will spend three to four years combining On-the-Job Training (OJT) with related home study to develop your knowledge, skills and abilities, and while an apprentice, you will receive a good wage with additional benefits. In other words, we will pay you to learn your trade.

For the first year, you will study general subjects such as Safety and Health, Technical Math, Measurements, Mechanics, Technical Diagrams, Materials and Troubleshooting. After completing your general home studies, your home study training will become specialized to your chosen trade. At the same time, you will be working a full workweek with a qualified OJT trainer. We will supply tools, home study materials, instructors, uniforms, and anything else needed during your training.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

**To qualify for the apprenticeship program, you must:**

- Be at least 18 years of age when you begin your apprenticeship
- Have the physical ability to perform the tasks of the trade
- Be a U.S. Citizen or have permanent resident status
- Have a high school diploma or GED certificate
- Have a valid Texas drivers license
- Successfully complete a series of aptitude tests, according to criteria in our "Standards of Apprenticeship" for the TAMU Physical Plant Department

### **Recruitment and Selection**

Notice of Apprenticeship vacancy will be posted on-line at <http://hr.tamu.edu/> in the months of January and June and applications must be submitted on-line at the same web site during those same months. Final selections for the program are made from qualified candidates interviewed by the Physical Plant Apprenticeship Committee. The committee is made up of ten Physical Plant employees, five of which are from journey-level ranks. Applicant scores are a combination of aptitude scores, application scores and interview scores.

## AGREEMENT

Upon being accepted into the program, you and the Physical Plant will enter into a contractual "agreement" that is required by the U.S. Department of Labor. Therefore, you are expected to satisfactorily complete the requirements of the program. This will insure your advancement from one year to the next and the successful completion of your apprenticeship.

The Physical Plant intends to provide the apprentice continuous employment after completing training. However, no guarantee can be made that a permanent journey level position will be available upon completion of the program.

## THE PHYSICAL PLANT

The Physical Plant is the largest nonacademic department on the Texas A&M University campus, with over 1000 employees. It is dedicated to supporting the academic, research, and extension missions of the University. The goal is to provide for each student, faculty member, staff member, and visitor a comfortable, functional, and safe environment.

## WORKING AT TAMU

The University is the largest employer in the community and has the reputation of providing stable employment with competitive benefits and wages. As an apprentice, you will enjoy the same fringe benefits provided to full-time employees. Some of these include paid: holidays, vacation leave, and sick leave; partially paid group insurance programs; and a retirement program. Texas A&M is an equal opportunity employer without regard to race, color, religion, sex, nationality, age, or non-job-related disabilities. As you team-up with a diverse and dedicated group of skilled crafts persons I believe you will find the work rewarding and working at the University a source of great pride. I encourage you to apply.

TRAINING OFFERED IN THE TRADES OF*	PROGRAM LENGTH**
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### Building Trades

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Mech.	4 years
Carpenter	3 years
Electrician	4 years
Electronic Technician	4 years
Insulator	3 years
Locksmith	3 years
Plumber	4 years
Sheet-metal Worker	4 years

### Utility Trades

Diesel Technician	4 years
High Voltage Electrician	4 years
Utilities Instrumentation Tech.	4 years
Utilities Plant Electrician	4 years
Utilities Plant Mechanic	4 years
Utilities Plant Operator	4 years
Utilities Plumber	4 years
Water Lab Technician	4 years

\* We do not necessarily accept applications in every craft every year. Selection is based on need for personnel and availability of vacancies. To find out which crafts have openings, contact the Training Branch.

\*\* Length of apprenticeship including On-the-Job training hours and related studies.

### **For more information, please contact:**

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