

Building Wisconsin Together®



October is Careers in Construction Month

Local 139 is committed to promoting our rewarding trade as career choice to meet the needs of our contractors and ensure there is adequate bench-depth of membership (which is necessary for the fiscal strength of our health and pension funds).

We know you are proud of the work you do building Wisconsin, so we ask for your help this fall as we celebrate Careers in Construction month. Here are a few easy ways you can help:

1. Promote the pre-apprenticeship program for high school students

Tell a student, parent, or educator about the pre-apprenticeship opportunity available through Wisconsin Operating Engineer's partnership with Destinations Career Academy.

- Wisconsin's online public charter school focused on Career & Technical Education
- DWD certified pre-apprenticeship program
- Student remains enrolled at their current high school
- Take 1-2 Operating Engineer pre-apprenticeship courses a semester
 - Basic Equipment
 - Basic Maintenance
 - Basic Grade & Math for the Trades
 - CDL Preparation
- Complete apprenticeship requirements while still in high school

<https://buildingwisconsin.com/building-careers/>

2. Promote and participate in the Externship Days at the Coloma Training Center on November 8-9th

The Wisconsin Operating Engineers Externship Day is an opportunity for students, parents, and educators to:

- Tour the training center, including the indoor training arena
- Test their skill on equipment simulators
- Gain hands-on experience with mini excavators
- Learn about apprenticeship opportunities
- Interact with current apprentices and Operators
- Hear from employers about opportunities that exist and what they are seeking in employees

Seeking operators and apprentices to assist at the event with the equipment, tours, and discussion. We also need more employers to participate in the employer panel.

[Externship Flyer](#)

3. Help students in your community explore a career as an Operating Engineer

There are many ways to provide experience to students without getting behind the controls of a piece of equipment:

- Coordinate with the training center to have a simulator visit your local school
- Attend a career fair event and share your personal experience
- Offer to provide a talk and tour of a nearby job that you are working on
- Host students at your company to learn about the variety of careers available
- Consider offering a job shadow on work experience to a student on work release

Details on Destinations Career Academy and the November 8-9th Externship Day are available at www.buildingwisconsin.com or for additional questions contact Laura Cataldo at 608-616-2835 or laura.cataldo@bakertilly.com