

**CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP:  
A QUICK SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR THOSE CONSIDERING A SKILLED TRADES  
APPRENTICESHIP**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Rate yourself from 1-5 (5 being the highest) on the following requirements for apprenticeship:*

(5) Excellent (4) Good (3) Fair (2) Needs improvement (1) No Way

1. *Good work ethic. Before rating yourself consider the following:*

- Can you show up everyday, on time for work and school with no excuses?
- Do you always have a back-up day care and transportation plan?
- Can you work hard at a steady pace without complaining?

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

2. *Positive attitude. Before rating yourself consider the following:*

- Can you maintain a good sense of humor when dealing with people or practical jokers?
- Are you a good listener?
- Can you work with others as a team to build a project, whether you like someone or not?
- Can you follow directions of crew leaders regardless of manner in which they are given?
- On a construction work site directions are often given quickly and may sound angry because the immediacy of the job situation demands it. Are your feelings too sensitive to handle this type of environment?

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

3. *Physical strength and endurance for trades work. Before rating yourself consider the following:*

- Most apprenticeships require both physical strength and endurance and the ability to be safety conscious in all work.
- Are you able to work in physically demanding environments for extended periods of time in all weather conditions?
- Can you work at heights or in a small confined space?
- Can you work in an environment that may be extremely noisy, dirty, hot, cold, wet, smelly, or potentially dangerous?

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

4. *Drug free and able to pass drug/alcohol test? Before rating yourself consider the following:*

- All apprenticeship programs and many skilled trade employers randomly screen workers for drug and alcohol use.
- Many of these tests can detect marijuana usage within three months or more after use.
- All apprenticeship programs require a drug test as part of their application process.

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

5. *Valid California Driver's License and a good driving record? Before rating yourself consider the following:*

- Do you have reliable transportation? (preferably your own car)
- Companies may send you to another job in the middle of the day and you need to be able to get there.
- Your employer may need you to drive a company truck to get supplies.
- Are you willing to drive to where the work is which may be some distance from your home and may not be on a bus line?

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

6. *Good comprehension of the English language? Before rating yourself consider the following:*

- Good verbal and written comprehension skills are needed for successful learning on the job and in apprenticeship school.
- Can you follow written and verbal instructions accurately?
- Are you able to read and understand safety instructions and procedures?

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

7. *Minimum education required for entering the trades? Before rating yourself consider the following:*

- A GED or high school diploma is required to enter most trade apprenticeships.
- Do you have good math skills? Some trades require algebra or geometry.
- Some apprenticeships require accurate reading of a tape measure.
- Do you have basic knowledge of how to operate hand and power tools safely?

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

8. *Current living situation is stable and has a telephone. Before rating yourself consider the following:*

- Are you able to manage personal issues such as relationship or credit problems so they do not interfere with work or school performance?
- Are you able to resolve unexpected transportation or family problems so they do not interfere with work or school attendance?

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Do you have an overall aptitude for the trades? Before rating yourself consider the following:

<b>Do you like to:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1. Work with your hands?		
2. Being physical, working hard?		
3. Make repairs around the house? (i.e. fixing outlets or other fixtures, painting, etc.)		
4. Work outdoors?		
5. Drive cars, vans and/or farm equipment?		
6. See concrete results from your work?		
7. Solving technical problems/puzzles?		
8. Work from a pattern, blue print or diagram to construct or make things?		
9. Work independently, with little supervision?		
10. Take on challenges?		

**If you answered yes to:**

- 10-9 ques. give yourself (5) Excellent
- 8-6 ques. give yourself (4) Good
- 5-3 ques. give yourself (3) Fair
- 2-1 ques. give yourself (2) Needs Improvement
- 0 ques. give yourself (1) No Way

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL SCORE FOR YOUR OVERALL RATING**

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

If your score is:

- 45—40 You are an excellent candidate for a skilled trades apprenticeship.
- 39—34 With a little preparation, a skilled trade apprenticeship is a good choice for you.
- 33—27 A pre-apprenticeship program might be the best place for you to start.
- 26 or less A skilled trade apprenticeship is not the best choice for you.

This is a “non-scientific” assessment designed to help you take a closer look at apprenticeship expectations and requirements and the opportunity to compare them to your current level of apprenticeship readiness.