

BRICKLAYER

Nature of the Work

The work of the modern Bricklayer touches almost all aspects of building - industrial and commercial building, apartments and homes. A Bricklayer constructs walls, partitions, fireplaces, chimneys and other structural forms from brick or other masonry materials such as firebrick, concrete, concrete block, structural tile, terra cotta, and stone. They work with all materials put together with mortar involving the use of such tools as a trowel; chisel; jointer; brick hammer, level, and power saws for cutting bricks. They understand and work from blueprints. They also use measuring, leveling and aligning tools to check their work.

Working Conditions

Much of the work is out of doors and generally depends on suitable weather conditions. Modern construction methods along with heaters and plastic enclosures stretch the season for bricklaying construction making it independent of inclement weather. Bricklayers are on their feet all day and do considerable stooping and bending. At times work is done from scaffolding which may be high above the ground.

Interest and Personal Qualities

A person interested in this field would be involved in a variety of duties requiring fairly close tolerances, limits, or standards. Bricklaying requires careful, accurate work by the craftsman. To be a Bricklayer, one should enjoy working with one's hands and accept working outside under many different weather conditions. Good eyesight is especially important to quickly determine straight lines and level or plumb. Manual dexterity is also important.

General Requirements

- Age 17 or older.
- Good physical condition - must be physically capable of performing the work of the trade.
- American citizenship.
- High school diploma or GED.
- Reliable transportation

Admission Requirements

- Complete an Application.
- ACT WorkKeys Assessments: Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, & Locating Information
- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Be interviewed by the Board of Trustees.
- Selected Applicants will be required to take a general physical and drug screen at no cost.

Terms of Training

- Length of Apprenticeship - 4 years.
- Minimum Hours of Related Classroom Training - 144 each year.
- Indentured to the Joint Apprenticeship Committee and Assigned to a Local Union.
- Length of Probationary Period – 1 year.

Recommended High School Courses

- English, General Math, Algebra I, Geometry, Mechanical Drawing, Building Trade

Michigan Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers (BAC) Training Center, Howard Hipes, Training Director
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All applicants are afforded equal opportunity without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age or disability.