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CA Title 24 Submission

Apprenticeship Program

To join the UA without any prior experience, individuals enter a United Association five-year apprenticeship program and are part of a select group of men and women motivated to learn a complex and challenging trade, while upholding the ideals of trade unionism.

Applicants are evaluated on the same fair basis, without regard to race, sex, national origin, religious affiliation or sexual orientation. UA apprentices learn through both classroom and on-the-job training in what is considered by many to be the best construction industry apprentice program in the world. The five-year apprenticeship period is divided into one-year segments, each of which includes 1,700 to 2,000 hours of on-the-job training and a minimum of 246 hours of related classroom instruction. All UA apprentices receive a strong general education in the trade, with core courses in basics such as mathematics, science, drafting, welding and other pipe trades related courses. At a certain point, apprentices can choose a specific path to follow, to be trained as a journeyman plumber, pipefitter, sprinkler fitter, and HVACR Technician.

A service technician's work covers the general responsibilities for heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVACR). This would involve the installation and maintenance of all sizes of heating and cooling systems for residential, commercial, institutional and industrial applications. Some job specific applications include complete gas piping installations, high voltage electrical components, testing, analyzing and start-up of systems.