

SHEET METAL WORKERS

Sheet metal workers make, install and maintain air conditioning, heating, ventilation and pollution control duct systems, roofs, siding, rain gutters, downspouts, skylights, restaurant equipment, outdoor signs, and many other building parts and products made from metal sheets. They may also work with fiberglass and plastic materials. Although some workers specialize in fabrication, (remove and plastic) installation or maintenance, most do all three jobs. Sheet metal workers usually fabricate their products at a shop away from the construction site. They first study plans and specifications to determine the kind and quantity of materials they will need. They then measure, cut, bend, shape and fasten pieces of sheet metal to make duct work, counter tops, and other custom products. In an increasing number of shops, sheet metal workers use computerized metalworking equipment. This enables them to experiment with different layouts and to select the one that results in the least waste of material. They cut or form the parts with computer-controlled saws, lasers, shears and presses.

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM & REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must have a High School diploma or G.E.D., and valid driver's license. A \$20 application fee is required and High School transcripts at the time of applying. The program is four years and requires a math test and mechanical reasoning test. Scores determine ranking on list to be accepted into the program.

WAGE INFORMATION: Apprentices start at 45% of wage scale. Journeyman wages are \$38.76 hourly plus health care and pension benefits. Benefit package totals \$22.72.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATORY CLASSES: Math - including Mathematic classes, and welding classes are helpful as well as HVAC sheet metal drafting, computer aided draft and design.

WORKING CONDITIONS: Sheet metal workers work inside and outside in all types of weather conditions and sometimes in confined spaces.

ABILITIES: Must be able to work at high levels from ladders and scaffolds and must be able to lift heavy objects.

| WAGE + BENEFITS | 1 ST YR APPR. |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| \$38.76 + \$22.72 | 45% of wage |

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