WHY SKILLED TRADES?

Career tradespeople (Electricians, Pipefitters, Boiler Operators) are always in demand, especially now more than ever. These high demand occupations provide a huge opportunity for dedicated men and women to learn a skilled trade to fill these needs in the future.

THE SITUATION
Industries across the nation, and right here in metro-Detroit are facing a growing shortage of tradespeople such as electricians, pipefitters and boiler operators, and as the baby boomer generation retires, this demand is only going to increase. According to LinkedIn, 45% of all manufacturing companies are reporting the lack of skilled trades is mitigating their ability to properly resource new business. When you learn a skilled trade, the industry’s big problem can become your big break. The skills of tradespeople are continually in high demand in the manufacturing industry.

THE PAY
Learning a skilled trade gives you the opportunity to build a strong career with great potential - all without sinking into student debt. You do the math: according to The Detroit Free Press, Michigan students who earn a traditional four-year degree graduate with an average of $30,852 in student loan debt; an amount that can take years to pay off. There is nothing wrong with a four-year degree, however this is not the only path to success. Skill tradespeople can earn higher starting salaries than the average college graduate. According to the US Dept of Labor, the average starting wage after completing an apprenticeship is $60,000. According to LADDERS, the average starting salary of a 4-year college student is $50,000 per year. With multiple specialities to choose from, you can find your calling and begin saving for your dreams, rather than paying down student loan debt.

THE SKILLS
From Pipefitters and Boiler Operators to Electricians and Brick Masons, every tradesperson's career is built on the same foundation: solid skills learned through pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships or technical college.

So what is an apprenticeship?
Apprenticeships are company-sponsored programs that last from one to six years, depending on the occupation and type, and connect education and work simultaneously. Apprentices take classes while they are working, combining classroom instruction and hands-on learning. At the end of the apprenticeship, industry-recognized credentials are earned and in many cases apprentices can receive college credits that may lead to an associate or bachelor's degree. During the apprenticeship, wages increase over time as apprentices advance in their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Visit the Department of Labor's Apprenticeship website for more information about apprenticeships and to find current apprenticeship programs in your area: https://www.apprenticeship.gov

Interested in a skilled trades position at FCA?
Our apprenticeship opportunities are limited for eligible employees; however, we have openings for experienced skilled trade professionals. Our job opportunities require either:

- Completion of a US Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship program in the applicable trade
- 8 years of relevant work experience in the trade
### ELECTRICIAN

The Electrician is responsible for layout, installation, repair and preventative maintenance of all electrical equipment and power and lighting systems in the facility including motors, generators, transformer controls and mechanisms, timing devices, switches, cable and conduits. This includes connections to electronic equipment or the installation and repair of any other electrical equipment.

### TOOLMAKER

The work requires practical skill and knowledge as a Toolmaker to analyze specifications, lay out metal stock, set up and operate machine tools, and fit and assemble parts to make and repair cutting tools, jigs, fixtures, gauges and hand tools. The candidate must have the ability to plan the sequence of operation and materials required according to knowledge of computer technology, such as computer aided design, CAD, or computer aided manufacturing, CAM, to design and create instructions for the manufacture tools.

### PIPEFITTER

Pipefitters are responsible for layout and fabrication, assembly, installation, and maintenance of piping & plumbing systems, fixtures and equipment for steam, water, sprinkler, heating, cooling, lubricating and related systems. The work may require interpreting specifications, blueprints, manufacturers’ manuals, sketches or similar documents. It will also require the ability to plan the sequence of operation and materials according to knowledge of pressure capacities, piping, plumbing operations and materials.

### MILLWRIGHT

The Millwright is responsible for installing, assembling, and, when necessary, dismantling machinery, conveyor systems, pulleys, mechanical clutches, gear boxes, hydraulic and pneumatic control systems. The Millwright will transport and locate machines and equipment to the desired location according to floor plans, or as directed using fork lifts, hoists, winches, cranes and other equipment. Assemble machines or equipment from their component parts.

### MACHINE REPAIR

The Machine Repair Tradesperson is responsible for diagnosing defects in operations, disassembling, repairing, replacing parts and reassembling to operating condition all machines, machine tools and mechanical equipment.

The Machine Repair Tradesperson will perform all layout, machining and mechanical operations associated with tearing down, rebuilding and reconditioning machines and mechanical equipment, and other specialized mechanical repair work.

### BOILER OPERATOR

Boiler Operators will generally be responsible for operating and performing routine maintenance and repair on all equipment within the powerhouse with the exception of new installations, mechanical and electrical. Boiler Operators will operate and maintain steam boilers or hot water generators and associated equipment, including compressors, cooling towers, pumps, fans.

### MECHANIC - GAS & ELECTRIC JITNEY

Mechanic - Gas and Electric Jitney skilled employees are responsible for maintaining and repairing a combination gas-electric, or gas or electric powered jitneys, tractors, and self-propelled yard cranes. They may disassemble, repair and completely rebuild all units of the equipment and hoisting mechanism, and perform miscellaneous repairs and adjustments.

Please visit our careers website to view current openings and qualifications.
EOE/M/F/Disability/Vet