WHAT IS THE PROGRAM?

The MN Trades Academy (MTA) offers a paid summer internship program for Twin Cities area high school students. Over the summer, students explore careers in the construction industry through a hands-on experience while earning wages as they gain foundational skills and prepare for a successful career in the trades.

MTA OFFERS TWO TRACKS FOR SUMMER INTERNS:

TRACK I – INTRODUCTION: Interns engage in hands-on projects and learn from certified experts about different careers in the construction building trades, from carpentry to electrical, as well as industry-related careers, such as architecture and project management.

TRACK II – ADVANCED: Interns tour more than 15 apprenticeship centers, where they complete construction projects under the supervision of skilled trade experts. This track prepares interns to select a construction career path.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The MTA summer internship program is for Minnesota high school youth, grades 9 to 12, with an interest in the construction trades.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Applicants (beginning at age 16) who qualify for Saint Paul’s Right Track program, Minneapolis’ STEP UP program or Ramsey County’s U LEAD program are welcome to apply. Many interns are still in high school, and some have recently graduated from high school.

The program is designed to encourage Minnesota youth – regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation - to consider a career in construction. Women and students of color are highly encouraged to apply for the MTA summer internship.

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HOW DOES THE PROGRAM LEAD TO A CAREER IN CONSTRUCTION?

At the end of the summer, MTA interns can select a construction-related career path. Interns who are in their senior year of high school or have recently graduated have gone on to:

- Apply for union apprenticeship programs
- Enroll in construction-related college degree programs
- Enter directly into the construction work force

MTA'S IMPACT ON MINNESOTA'S CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The Minnesota Trades Academy gives the next generation, including young women and people of color, an opportunity to see the potential of working with new and old technologies that help build their communities.

MN TRADES ACADEMY’S INTERN TURN-AROUND

- 2018: 97 Interns
- 2017: 76 Interns
- 2016: 24 Interns

SINCE THE PROGRAM’S START IN 2016, IT HAS HELPED 158 STUDENTS

- 5 in 7 of the participants were from communities of color.
- 1 in 7 of the participants were female.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

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