

Boilermaker

Nature of the Work

A Boilermaker is a highly skilled tradesperson who erects and maintains various types of pressure vessels. These vessels include small boilers in schools and hospitals, coal fired boilers in power generation plants, blast furnaces and basic oxygen furnaces in the steel industry, precipitators and scrubbers which clean the exhaust from these furnaces and boilers, and numerous other tanks and pressurized containment vessels in industrial plants. Welding, burning, heavy and high rigging, and layout work are the most important skills a Boilermaker needs to perform his job.

Working Conditions

A Boilermaker works primarily in plants that are considered heavy industrial. Steel mills, power generation plants for utilities, chemical plants, refineries and paper mills are just a few of the industries that Boilermakers and their contractors service. These plants can also pose dangerous working conditions so safety training is constantly taught and reviewed by the union, the contractor, and the owner. This tripartite alliance has proved very successful in minimizing lost time accidents.

Interest and Personal Qualities

Persons interested in becoming Boilermakers need to be able to follow instructions from their foreman. They must not be afraid of heights or be claustrophobic, and can occasionally expect to work the night shift. Most maintenance in heavy industry is performed around the clock.

General Qualifications

- Age 18 or older
- Minimum education - high school graduate or equivalent
- Must pass a drug screening test at an approved testing site
- Must be of good physical condition to perform the work required
- Upon application must have proof of high school diploma or GED, birth certificate, social security card and documentation of any welding experience.
- Applications are accepted second Tuesday of every month, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Admission Requirements of the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee

Applicants are later contacted to take a written aptitude and general scholastic skills test which is administered under the guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Terms of Training

Length of apprenticeship - 4 years.

Classroom work and home studies are required along with on the job training.

Recommended High School Courses

General Math, Geometry, Mechanical Drawing, Welding.

Contact Information / Available Applications

Boilermakers Union Hall

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Dearborn, MI 48126

Telephone: (313) 584-8520

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Web: www.boilermakerslocal169.com/

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Don Cochran, Administrator

Tony Jacobs, Career Opportunity Consultant

All applicants are afforded equal opportunity without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age or disability.