

**West Central Illinois
Building and Construction
Trades Council**



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Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the West Central Illinois Building and Construction Trades Council (WCIBCTC).

Please take the time to look over the information contained in this packet. This packet will give you information on the organized construction industry as well as the WCIBCTC.

The WCIBCTC is committed to helping contractors/customers in every way possible. We give top priority to the many concerns you may have, including, but not limited to: contractor/customer satisfaction; budget concerns; safety and training; and labor-management relations.

With this in mind our organized work force offers you the best trained, safest workers in the construction industry. These competent workers help contractors/customers achieve on time, in budget projects every time.

Again, thank you for your time. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working with you.

Respectfully,

Martin J. Helfers
Executive Director

Training and Education

Unions affiliated with the WCIBCTC offer the best training and apprenticeship programs in the construction industry. Why? These organizations realize that contractors/customers want quality work for a competitive price.

The apprenticeship programs offered by our affiliated unions run two to five years in length. The trainee spends part of their time in the classroom learning the technical aspects of the position and part of their time on the job site using



the skills hands-on. Each apprentice must complete the stringent training to receive journeyman status in their chosen profession.



After the member receives journeyman status, a continuous training program is mandatory to keep their skills on the cutting edge of new technologies and innovations. Our members take pride in their work that is why they realize that training and education are of utmost importance. Their training and education keep the customer/contractor on time and within budget on their project needs.

Unions and their contractors spend over \$300 million to provide the best available training systems on both the national and local levels. More than 1,000 training facilities exist and approximately 170,000 apprentices a year pass through the intensive training programs offered. In addition, nearly one-half million foremen and workers participate in upgrade training programs in these same facilities. -Cockshaw's Construction Labor News + Opinion

Health and Safety

The WCIBCTC is committed to creating a safer, healthier and more cost effective workplace throughout its 13-county jurisdiction.

Through our OSHA training programs, we offer our members construction training in OSHA standards and regulations. Our programs and training include:

- OSHA certified instructors on staff
- 10 hour OSHA training
- OSHA standards and regulations information
- OSHA certification



With this training, our work force is the safest trained and most productive in the construction industry.

These workers create a better work environment through less accidents and less lost days. This in turn creates lower health insurance and workers' compensation costs for the contractor/customer.

Union workers are at least 29 percent more productive than non-union construction workers.

-Dr. Steven G. Allen, Professor of Economics and Business of North Carolina State University

OSHA reports that 72 percent of construction fatalities occurred on non-union jobs.

Labor-Management Relations

Labor-Management relations are a top priority to the WCIBCTC. Through its affiliation with area organizations—such as The Tri-County Construction Labor-Management Council (TRICON); Peoria Area Labor Management Council (PALM) and others—the WCIBCTC works to maintain a positive relationship between labor and management.

The WCIBCTC in conjunction with area contractor associations work:

- To help improve the labor relations image of the union construction industry;
- To work toward creating new business opportunities for union contractors and to create new jobs for union construction workers;
- To promote a spirit of teamwork between contractors and construction workers to the point of complete trust and understanding between the parties;
- To establish an ongoing forum for the discussion of labor-management issues of the construction industry; and
- To work within the phases of the construction industry to promote harmony and productivity.



The training that building trade unions receive is the most extensive in the construction industry. It is this superior training, combined with the union contractors strong commitment to safety, which assures that union construction jobs are operated safely, productively and at competitive prices.

- Construction Industry Labor-Management 1990's Committee

All that served Labor serves the nation. All that harms is treason... If a man tells you he loves America, yet hates labor, he is a liar... There is no America without labor, and to fleece one is to rob the other. -Abraham Lincoln.

