



# EMPLOY. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

The Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program gives high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to explore their career pathway while still in high school. During the apprenticeship, you will continue toward high school graduation and take courses related to the profession as a way of enhancing what is being learned on the job. Upon completion of the Youth Apprenticeship program, you will receive a Certificate of Occupation Proficiency from the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.

## Why Youth Apprenticeship?

**Real World Experience.** Develop valuable skills and gain work experience that can lead to future opportunities, while improving your academic performance by seeing how classroom learning applies in the workplace.

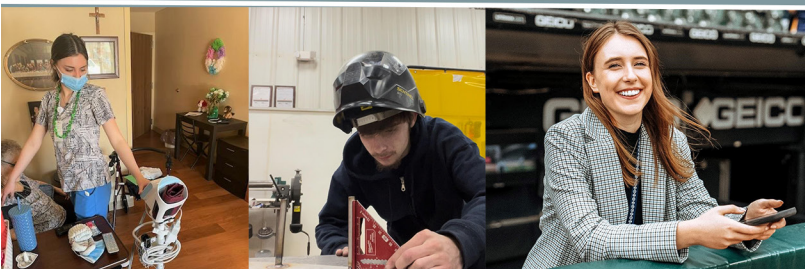
**Earn.** Earn money while completing your education, along with earning both high school and college credit. Youth Apprentices have the opportunity to receive related instruction at a value of six credits for a one-year apprenticeship or twelve credits for a two-year apprenticeship, at no cost to you! This related instruction may be college credit, certifications, or other related training that will apply to your chosen career pathway.

**Network.** Build professional networks and connections within your chosen industry. Approximately 80% of YA graduates are employed after graduating high school and many work for their YA employers while attending college.

## Are You Eligible?

- You're a high school junior or senior
- You can work at least 450 hours from June 1 - the following August 31
- You can meet high school graduation requirements

**If you answered yes to these questions, you're eligible!**



# How to Become A Youth Apprentice

## Step 1: Determine which YA career pathway is right for you.

Explore regional career pathways through your high school's career exploration program. Talk with your school-based youth apprenticeship coordinator for guidance.

## Step 2: Get prepared and apply.

Share your interest in the Youth Apprenticeship program with your school-based youth apprenticeship coordinator and complete the Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Student Registration form.

## Step 3: Connect and interview with employers in your chosen career pathway.

Your school-based youth apprenticeship coordinator can help you connect with employers in your chosen career pathway. If you already have an employer in mind, either you or the school-based coordinator can talk with an employer representative about the youth apprenticeship program. Employers can interview youth apprentices, so make sure to dress appropriately and be ready to answer interview questions. Once you have had a successful interview and job offer, you, your parent/guardian, an employer representative, your school-based youth apprenticeship coordination, and a CESA 3 youth apprenticeship coordinator will sign the Education/Training Agreement.

## Step 4: Participate in all employer orientations, onboardings, and safety trainings.

When you start your youth apprenticeship, you'll participate in the employer's onsite orientation and meet your employer mentor. As you complete your career pathway specific YA requirements, your employer will continuously evaluate your progress and provide feedback throughout your YA experience.

## Step 5: Successfully complete your related instruction.

Youth Apprentices have the opportunity to receive related instruction at a value of six credits for a one-year apprenticeship or twelve credits for a two-year apprenticeship, at no cost to you. This related instruction may be college credit, certifications, or other related training that will apply to the career pathway. Related instruction is very individualized and your related instruction will depend on your post-high school plans, along with the needs of your employer and your chosen industry. You will work with your school-based youth apprenticeship coordinator to determine what related instruction is best for you. Related instruction courses or programs must be successfully completed to earn your Youth Apprentice Certificate of Occupational Proficiency from the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.

**Please feel free to contact a member of the CESA 3 Career & Life Ready team or your school-based youth apprenticeship coordinator with any questions.**

Tom Martin, [tmartin@cesa3.org](mailto:tmartin@cesa3.org) | Darla Burton, [dburton@cesa3.org](mailto:dburton@cesa3.org)  
Jessica Helms, [jhelms@cesa3.org](mailto:jhelms@cesa3.org) | Chuck Keller, [ckeller@cesa3.org](mailto:ckeller@cesa3.org)

**Your school-based youth apprenticeship coordinator:**

