

Destinations Career Academy, the answer for industry and student needs

The 2017 Sage Construction & Real Estate survey of contractors proved that the workforce shortage is a top concern for most companies with 76 percent of contractors predicting that worker shortages will

remain tight or get worse in 2017. Multiple issues directly related to the workforce shortage.

Construction Business Group recognizes workforce is a critical issue for Wisconsin's contractors and is

dedicated to supporting the growth of the Operating Engineers Pre-Apprenticeship Program through Destinations Career Academy. This program prepares students for registered apprenticeship while still in high school.

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**DCA solves the workforce issue
by getting the next generation of
operators started in high school**

What today's students want

Generation Z (born between 1995 and 2009) is the student targeted by Destinations Career Academy. These young people have grown up with technology, are accustomed to immediate solutions ('Google-it'), and use a FastPass at Disney resorts to advance to the front of the line. Per "Forbes" magazine, the educational world must change to meet the changing needs of this generation as:

**47 percent would consider entering
the workforce straight from high school**

**60 percent welcome employers offering
education in their field in lieu of a college degree**

Sounds like apprenticeship is a great fit for this generation of students.

Through Destinations Career Academy, Wisconsin students can take the following Operating Engineer courses online, while still in high school, earning technical college credits and completing apprenticeship requirements:

Basic Equipment

Basic Maintenance

Basic Grade

Construction Regulations

Completing these required apprenticeship courses in advance, allows the student to accelerate (or FastPass) upon graduating from high school into the apprenticeship program. This saves Wisconsin families money and helps to-be apprentices move quickly into a career as an Operating Engineer.

Father & son apprentices



If you know of a school district that we should reach out to about this program, please contact Laura Cataldo at laura.cataldo@maximconsulting.com

Montello High School student Taylor Fox knows a lot about Operating Engineers as his father Mike Fox is a proud member of Local 139. He became interested in becoming an Operating Engineer after visiting their training center during a member picnic. This was an important event for Taylor because, for the first time, he had an opportunity to see and experience the many types of equipment and state-of-the-art training center in Coloma.

Taylor was excited to learn about the unique opportunity to start taking apprenticeship classes while in high school. He currently is taking Basic Equipment and really enjoys it. His experience has intrigued many of his classmates who also have a strong technical aptitude and are looking for a way to tie that interest into education. Taylor's story is going to be the focus of an upcoming episode of the television program "Building Wisconsin." Watch for more information on when this show begins airing in late March.