

## SKILLED TRADES CAREERS

The skilled trades offer high-paying opportunities in a variety of in-demand fields following education and on-the-job training.<sup>3</sup>

**12%**

overall job growth in the skilled trades industry.<sup>2</sup>

### Job Outlook<sup>3,4,7</sup>

Excellent

#### Electrician

Electricians install and repair wiring, fixtures and fuse boxes in different buildings. They also plan electrical systems and maintain transformers and circuit breakers. This trade is often learned on the job with an apprenticeship, which lasts about four to five years and leads directly into the next area of this line of work.<sup>1</sup>

- Average salary: \$56,181<sup>1</sup>

Great

#### Pipefitter & Steamfitters

Pipefitters and steamfitters turn advanced blueprints into reality by cutting, threading and hammering pipes to correct specifications. They also complete assembly by welding, soldering and threading pipe together. Many pipes carry different chemicals and gases at high pressures, so it is important to be prepared and patient in this position.<sup>1</sup>

- Average salary: \$55,181<sup>4</sup>

Good

#### Plumber

Plumbers replace, maintain, and restore different gas and water lines in homes and buildings. By completing inspections, they create estimates and determine if all things are up to safety codes and standards. This position has a high degree of flexibility, independence, and income stability.<sup>1</sup>

- Average salary: \$55,162<sup>1</sup>

Fair

#### Welder

Welding is used in thousands of manufacturing activities as well as in the construction of buildings, bridges and other structures. There are more than 100 different processes that a welder can use. Responsibilities also include studying blueprints, calculating dimensions, inspecting structures and more. As with most skilled trades jobs, safety and communication are vital.<sup>6</sup>

- Average salary: \$44,190<sup>7</sup>

Poor

#### Construction & Building Inspectors

Inspectors are knowledgeable in many areas of the trades as they ensure all construction projects meet regulations and codes. Most of their time is spent at job sites looking at plumbing, electrical, and other systems. As it is important to know what is correct and incorrect, a license is usually required for this job position.<sup>3</sup>

- Average salary: \$62,860<sup>3</sup>

### Major Skills Used By Skilled Trade Professionals<sup>5</sup>

Creativity

Leadership

Communication

Problem-solving

Critical thinking

People entering the trade skills field can expect a median salary of<sup>2</sup>

**\$61,466**

1. <https://skillpointe.com/news-and-advice/24-highest-paying-trade-jobs-no-bachelors-degree-required>

2. <https://www.bestcolleges.com/blog/best-trade-school-jobs/>

3. <https://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/resources/highest-paying-trade-jobs/>

4. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/plumbers-pipefitters-and-steamfitters.htm>

5. <https://www.nextechacademy.com/blog/how-soft-skills-can-advance-your-career-in-the-trades/>

6. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/production/welders-cutters-solderers-and-brazers.htm#tab-2>

7. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/production/welders-cutters-solderers-and-brazers.htm>