



# Maricopa County Human Services Department

## News Release

**Workforce Development**  
234 N. Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85004  
Phone: 602-506-5911  
Fax: 602-506-8789  
maricopaworkforceconnection.com

For additional information: Allie Masters - 602.506.4848  
August 20, 2006

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### *Apprenticeship Provides Skills Training*

Over the last three years, the Maricopa Workforce Connections has partnered with four local apprenticeship programs to assist new trainees with their first year training costs. The programs include electrical, sheet metal, pipe fitting and bricklaying, all of which are in high demand given the new construction in Maricopa County. The apprenticeship programs provide an opportunity for men and women to receive classroom instruction, hands-on training, and earn an income while learning a trade. The programs are accredited and provide comprehensive training under the supervision of journeyman level professionals.

During the course of the apprenticeship, students earn competitive wages and benefits, including health care and retirement, and may be eligible for wage increases at six month intervals. The length of training varies by trade and may be two to five years. Minimum requirements for acceptance by apprenticeship programs include:

- at least 18 years of age
- a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- a valid driver's license
- personal transportation
- pass a drug screening test

Dennis Anthony, training director of the Phoenix Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee and former Maricopa Workforce Investment Board member, recently attended a national apprentice program conference and had the opportunity to share information on Maricopa Workforce Connections Apprenticeship Partnership Program as a "best practice"

For further information, job seekers may call or visit one of the Maricopa Workforce Connections (MWC) Career Centers.

- East Valley location: 735 N. Gilbert Road (corner of Guadalupe and Gilbert Roads) in Gilbert, (480) 497-0350.
- West Valley location: 9770 W. Peoria Ave., Peoria, (623) 934-3231.

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