

Indiana Arborist Apprenticeship Program

Apprentice Resources & Information



With no experience or training in Arboriculture or Urban Forestry, the Indiana Arborist Apprenticeship Program can bring you into a growing field with excellent long-term employment and career advancement opportunities. Learn more at: www.indiana-arborist.org/apprenticeship/

Start a rewarding career today!

The Indiana Registered Arborist Apprenticeship Program is an entry-level employee training program in Northwest Indiana where you will:

- Earn while you learn
- Work full-time, in the field, right away
- Be paired with a mentor to receive one-on-one training
- Receive related technical instruction

By the end of this 3-year program, you will be qualified to take the ISA certified arborist exam with relevant experience behind you and a rewarding career ahead.

The Indiana Arborist Association, Great Lakes Urban Forestry and the Center of Workforce Innovations are actively recruiting Apprentices from Northwest Indiana into this new program. Learn more about how to sign up today:

- ▶ **Web:** www.indiana-arborist.org/apprenticeship/
- ▶ **Email:** apprenticeinfo@gluf.net
- ▶ **Phone:** 219-380-9770



The Indiana Arborist Association's Apprenticeship Program is an equal opportunity provider registered with the Indiana Department of Workforce Development and the US Department of Labor under: 2024-IN-130141 and is funded through the US Forest Service and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Community and Urban Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Grant Program.

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Apprentice Resources & Information: FAQs

Skills You Will Gain as an Arborist Apprentice

1. Tree ID and biology
2. Tree care including planting, mulching, watering, pruning
3. Tree climbing skills including use of safety harnesses, ropes and pulleys
4. Use of arborist equipment including chainsaws, pruning saws, and personal protective gear
5. Use of heavy machinery including lift trucks, chippers, watering trucks
6. Proficiency in related technical instruction on the science behind the work
7. Professional development including employer relations, communication skills, team-work
8. Experience working in a fast-growing industry with career advancement opportunities

What employers are hiring Apprentices through this program?

Apprentices are paired with an employer in Northwest Indiana who will hire them for a paid position starting on day one. The employer could be a private tree care company, a municipality or utility company.

How long is the Apprenticeship and what does it include?

The Apprenticeship is a three-year program that combines on-the-job-training with related technical instruction. Apprentices spend about 90% of their time on the job, and 10% of their time in the classroom.

Who will be assigned as my mentor?

Apprentices are assigned to a skilled worker in their company who will provide one-on-one training, support and mentoring for the duration of the program. The skilled worker is often a Certified Arborist with years of experience on the job.

What qualifications do I need to be eligible for the program?

None! It is however critical that you enjoy being outdoors in all seasons and are not afraid of hard work. Arborists are often "outdoorsy" or "adventure seeking" personality types!

How is the Apprentice's pay determined?

Pay for an Apprentice begins at a minimum of \$17/hour with a \$1 increase every six months, ending the program at \$22/hour. The starting rate can be higher depending on the employer's current pay scale.

How will I get the equipment I need?

A standard set of Person Protective Equipment will be provided for each Apprentice with additional support available through The Center of Workforce Innovation's wrap-around services.

What is the role of the Indiana Arborist Association?

The IAA works with the employer and apprentice to design the right type of contract, and facilitate receipt of wrap-around supporting services from the Center of Workforce Innovations.

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