

Carpenters

**Median hourly
earnings:
\$23.88**

**Median annual
earnings:
\$49,330**

Occupation Description

Carpenters are involved in many different kinds of construction, from the building of highways and bridges to the installation of kitchen cabinets. Carpenters construct, erect, install, and repair structures and fixtures made from wood and other materials.

Education and Training Needed

Carpenters learn their trade through formal and informal training programs. Between 3 and 4 years of both on-the-job training and classroom instruction usually is needed to become a skilled carpenter. There are a number of ways to train, but a more formal training program often improves job opportunities.

Training Providers

[Mid-Atlantic Regional Council Joint School of Carpentry](#)

9109 Westphalia Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774
(301) 736-1696

Carpentry Apprenticeship

The Carpentry Apprenticeship program is a four-year program. The first three years consist of on-the-job training and classroom instruction, which includes blueprint reading, math, trade science, and lab. The apprentice attends school year-round, one week every three months. The school is set on a quarter schedule with the apprentice attending twelve quarters within three years, thus fulfilling the 660 school hours as required by the Apprenticeship Standards. No tuition.

[Spanish Catholic Center of Catholic Community Service](#)

1618 Monroe St, NW
Washington, D.C. 20010
(202) 939-2426

Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Program

The Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Program is free for DC & MD residents who are 18 years old. There is a weekly stipend offered in addition to weekly bus passes and T-shirts. The class runs Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with three cycles during the year with on-going registration. Ten-week classes include: Construction Safety OSHA-10, Technical ESL for Construction, Occupational Math, skills for employment search, Flaggers Safety, CPR training and Job Referral Assistance with Union Trades and Construction Companies. Hands-on practice at DC Habitat for Humanity every Thursday.