

Green Roofer

**Median annual
earnings: \$36,460**

**Predicted growth:
Demand for 11,800
workers in the next 10
years**

Occupation Description

Roofers repair and install roofs made of tar or asphalt and gravel; rubber or thermoplastic; metal; or shingles to protect buildings and their contents from water damage. Repair and reroofing – replacing old roofs on existing buildings – makes up the majority of work for roofers. To apply shingles, roofers first lay, cut, and tack 3-foot strips of roofing felt over the entire roof. Starting from the bottom edge, the roofer then staples or nails overlapping rows of shingles to the roof. Roofers measure and cut the felt and shingles to fit intersecting roof surfaces and to fit around vent pipes and chimneys. Wherever two roof surfaces intersect, or shingles reach a vent pipe or chimney, roofers cement or nail flashing-strips of metal or shingle over the joints to make them watertight. Finally, roofers cover exposed nailheads with roofing cement or caulking to prevent water leakage. Roofers who use tile, metal shingles, or shakes (rough wooden shingles) follow a similar process. Roofers also install equipment that requires cutting through roofs, such as ventilation ducts and attic fans. Some roofers are expert in waterproofing; some waterproof and dampproof masonry and concrete walls, floors, and foundations. A small but growing number of buildings now have “green” roofs that incorporate plants.

General Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Required for Success on the Job

Green roofers know how to incorporate plants on roofs. A “green” roof begins with a single or multi-ply waterproof layer. After it is proven to be leak free, roofers put a root barrier over it, and then layers of soil, in which trees and grass are planted. Roofers are usually responsible for making sure the roof is watertight and can withstand the weight and water needs of the plants.

Training and Education Needed

Training and Education Profile of Current Roofers

- Education: High School or Below
- Related Work Experience: 0 to <3 Months
- On the Job Training: 0 to 3 Months

Training Providers

[Goodwill of Greater Washington](#)

Diane Jessup, CESS, Intake Coordinator
2200 South Dakota Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20018

202-715-2627 (Office)
202-832-9782 (Fax)

Green Pathway DC Construction Program

Goodwill of Greater Washington, in coordination with the Green Builders Council of DC, administers a 10-week job training program for DC residents in the fields of sustainable building, weatherization, and smart meter installation. Green Pathway DC trains out-of-work and underemployed DC residents in high growth, high demand fields, creates a local workforce more capable of building energy efficient and environmentally sustainable buildings, homes, and neighborhoods, and provides a proven pathway to green jobs in DC. The program includes employability skills training, pre-apprenticeship green construction instruction through the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum, and elective options in sustainable building, weatherization, and smart meter installation.

Admissions Criteria

- Complete a 10-week course; 8 am to 2 pm, Monday - Friday
- Must complete CASAS (Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems) math and reading assessment with a minimum 6th grade score
- Access reliable transportation to come to training (a weekly transportation stipend is available).
- Must be drug free and pass a drug screening
- Must be 18 years old, a DC resident, and have obtained high school diploma or GED.
- Must be able to provide documentation to verify DC residency, HS diploma or GED, Social Security #, Selective Service registration, and income (full documentation requirements will be given at intake orientation).

Washington DC School of Carpentry

9109 Westphalia Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774
Phone: (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. There is no tuition.

Spanish Catholic Center of Catholic Community Service

1618 Monroe St, NW
Washington, DC 20010
Phone: (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.

Washington Area Women In the Trades (WAWIT)

624 Ninth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 626-0700

Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Program

WAWIT is a 9-week, nontraditional employment training program with a classroom and experiential-based curriculum that prepares women for high-paying construction trade careers like carpentry, mechanics, electrician, plumber and more. Developed by Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW), YWCA, and the Community Services Agency of the Metro Washington Council, AFL-CIO, the program offers hands-on construction skills training at local trade union training sites with opportunities for certification; Adult Basic Education, Pre-GED and computer classes; job placement assistance; and comprehensive support services before, during and after job placement.