
— ADULT CAREER-CHANGER · PUBLIC STEPS ONLY · NO INVENTED OPENINGS

A calm, week-by-week plan for adults switching into the trades. Every step uses public tools — apprenticeship.gov, school catalogs, College Scorecard, and this independent map. We do **not** invent job openings, wages, or “seats left.”

Week 1 — Orient (pick a lane) → tear-off

- ☐ ☐ Read **trade school vs apprenticeship** (cost/time/pay without hype): registeredtradeschools.com/guides/trade-school-vs-apprenticeship/
- ☐ ☐ Run the soft **path chooser**: registeredtradeschools.com/apprenticeships/#path-chooser — earn-while-you-learn vs classroom/lab first.
- ☐ ☐ Name 1–2 trades to explore (example hubs): electrician · HVAC · plumbing · welding. Open </trades/> and read each hub’s week-one strip.
- ☐ ☐ Write your constraint: ☐ Need wages soon ☐ Can study first ☐ Geography: _____

Week 2 — Research (public data only) → tear-off

- ☐ ☐ Open your **state apprenticeship list** on this site, then search sponsor *organization names* on apprenticeship.gov (add city/state if the name is common). A directory row ≠ a job posting.
- ☐ ☐ Open your **state schools list** (Scorecard certificate/associate). Confirm program names on the school catalog — not only our tags.
- ☐ ☐ Save 3 sponsors and/or 3 schools with links + phone from public pages. Notes: _____
- ☐ ☐ Optional parent/counselor helper: send-home sheet + double-check habit (apprenticeship.gov + school/Scorecard).

Week 3 — Visit & talk (still verifying) → tear-off

- ☐ ☐ Visit or call one school information session *or* one sponsor/union/employer contact listed publicly. Ask which occupations they actually train.
- ☐ ☐ Ask for written program length, related-instruction expectations, and (school) an itemized quote if classroom/lab. Do not treat our pages as a quote.
- ☐ ☐ Re-check apprenticeship.gov / Scorecard the same day — listings change. Date re-checked: _____
- ☐ ☐ Talk to one working tradesperson or career counselor (neutral). Notes: _____

Week 4 — Decide next public step → tear-off

- ☐ ☐ Choose a primary path for the next 90 days: ☐ Apply to a registered apprenticeship process ☐ Enroll / apply to a school program ☐ Keep researching (name why): _____
- ☐ ☐ Complete the official application or info request on the *sponsor or school* site — not a lead form on this directory.
- ☐ ☐ Schedule one follow-up calendar reminder to re-verify registration / catalog facts before you pay or sign.

☐ ☐ If helping someone else: use the counselor kit three-step share (pick path → one print sheet → send home with a double-check).

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