

Southwest Washington Electrical JATC

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Training Center

What happens once I turn in my application?

Nothing happens until your application is returned to our office and you have submitted your transcripts to prove you meet all the minimum requirements. Once we have those items your file goes onto a waiting list for the next available aptitude test.

Can I apply for all three (3) programs?

Yes you can apply for all three (3) programs however, if you do get selected for all three (3) you can only choose to pursue one (1) program. Please note that there is an application fee of \$25.00 per application.

How do I find out when I am scheduled for an aptitude test?

You will receive a letter in the mail with your test date and time.

I have hours in the field already can I still apply?

Yes you can still apply. Here is how we handle applicants with hours.

1. Please tell us how many hours you have and if they are on file with Labor and Industries.
 - a. If you have 4,000 or more hours on file with Labor and Industries you would be eligible to bypass the aptitude test once you apply. Your file goes onto a waiting list for the next available interview once we receive your application and transcripts.

- b. If you have less than 4,000 hours on file with Labor and Industries you will still need to meet all the minimum qualifications and pass the aptitude test.

What if my hours are from another state or military?

Your first stop will be to Labor and Industries. You will need to have those hours converted to a Washington Electrical Trainee Card. Our apprenticeship can only recognize hours on file with Labor and Industries. Once you have done that please refer to the prior question.

I'm a female, can I apply?

Absolutely. Anyone who meets the minimum qualifications can apply.

What if I don't pass the aptitude test on the first try?

You will have to wait six (6) months before you can re-apply to take the test again. We will transfer your transcripts to your new file upon re-application.

What does my interview score and rank mean?

Your interview score is the average score (out of 100) given to you by the Committee. That score is then entered onto our Ranking List. The Ranking List is the list that we use to pull applicants for employment. The higher your interview score the higher you're ranking is on the Ranking List.

Example: Your score is a 94 and your rank is 5. That means that you would be the 5th person called out for employment.

OR

Your score was 90.25 and your rank is 35. That means that you would be the 35th person called out for employment. However keep in mind that your rank can move up and down the Ranking List as people are placed for employment or as new applicants are interviewed. So a rank of 35 could turn in to a rank of 17 or 150.

Your score will be the same for two (2) years, but as mentioned your ranking on the ranking list is in constant motion.

What happens once I am eligible for an interview?

Once you have turned in your application, transcripts, and passed the aptitude test now it is time for that all important interview with the Committee. Once an interview date has been selected you will be notified by mail on your interview date and time. Enclosed with that letter will also be a Questionnaire and Drug Policy. The Questionnaire and Drug Policy must be filled out, signed, and returned to our office by the date requested. The date that they will need to be turned in will be clearly stated in your interview letter and on the Questionnaire.

Failure to turn in your Questionnaire and Drug Policy by the date given will cancel your interview and application. Also if you show up late on your date of interview your application will be cancelled, even if you are only 5 minutes late. Late is late!!

What happens if I miss my interview?

If you have missed your chance for an interview due to being late or not turning in your questionnaire you may re-apply six (6) months after your missed interview.

What can I do to re-apply to try and increase my interview score?

In order to apply for a re-interview you must first wait six (6) months from your original interview date. By then you must have completed a minimum of 1,000 hours of Electrical Construction work or two (2) or more college credited classes since your last interview. Classes must be trade related (i.e.: math, electrical, welding, etc.) also classes must be one (1) quarter in length.

Electrical Construction clarification: This means working as a material handler, working for an electrical wholesale house (i.e. Platt, CED, Graybar, North Coast, B&W, Rainier Lighting are a few places) or even working in the field adding hours to an electrical trainee card.

What happens if I have been accepted?

Congratulations. Now what? First off you will receive a letter telling you that you will have a week of safety orientation. We normally hold these classes in the evening (5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) so that you still may continue to work at your current job. During safety orientation we will cover First Aid – CPR, Electrical Safety, OSHA, expose you to pipe bending, and a few other tricks about surviving on the job site. We will also cover the JATC rules and policies and what to expect now that you are here!!

Once you have completed this week of orientation, you are now eligible to be placed on a job site for employment. You will be dispatched out for work from the JATC once we have a job for you. If we have current apprentices on our Out of Work List they will need to be placed for work first. We are not able to place incoming apprentices for work until all existing apprentices are working.

Now the scary part -- Sometimes on the Friday of your last day of orientation you will already have a dispatch from us for job placement. Other times you may not. Hopefully by the end of orientation if we do not have a job placement for you we should have an estimated time that you will be in the field. Keep in mind, construction is very much tied to the economy. We are unable to predict slow down periods or even boom periods.

To ease your fears now... I have never known of a time were an apprentice has experienced a long lay-off time. Also when an apprentice is unemployed they are able to collect unemployment.