



Greater West Town Training Partnership

Woodworkers Training Program

The Greater West Town Woodworkers Training Program prepares trainees with a broad base of skills needed for entry-level positions such as:

- Cabinetmaker Apprentice
- Machine Operator
- Furniture Assembler
- Solid Surface Fabricator
- Mill Worker

Our program includes classroom and hands-on training on industry-standard machines including:

- Table Saw
- Miter Saw
- Planer
- Jointer
- Sanding Equipment
- Edgebander
- CNC

Program Information

Curriculum

Topic

Job Specific Skills

- Machine Set-up and Operation
- Hand Tools and Portable Power Tools
- Cabinetmaking/Furniture making Techniques
- Wood Technology
- Blueprint Reading
- OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification

Basic Skills

- Math
- Vocabulary, Reading, Writing

Employment Skills

- Job Readiness/Resume Preparation
- Labor Market Information

Total Course Hours

450

Course Schedule

Classes are scheduled from Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. To receive a state-certified woodworking certificate, students must be punctual, attend all classes, and apply themselves fully to learn the material. The Woodworking course is offered 4-5 times per year.

Location

We are located at 500 N. Sacramento Blvd., Chicago, IL 60612. We are accessible by public transportation. Street parking is available.

Will I Get A Job After Training?

We offer job placement assistance to graduates who have attained the state-certified vocational-technical certificate. The goal of the course is occupational training resulting in full-time woodworking employment following training. Of 23 graduates in FY18, 20 requested placement assistance and obtained employment in the field as a result of placement assistance from Greater West Town.

What Does a Career in Woodworking Have to Offer?

The range of starting pay generally falls between \$12.00 and \$13.75 hourly. The average hourly starting rate of the 20 graduates who reported starting salaries in FY18 was \$13.19. Our fast paced, 15-week program offers upon graduation:

- A stable career path
- Opportunities for advancement
- A transferable skill set
- The ability to create a variety of marketable wood products including cabinets, furniture, and countertops.

Who Makes a Good Woodworker?

- A perfectionist, one with an eye for detail who is meticulous about doing a task right. Woodworkers need the patience and diligence to sand out every scratch and make joints meet perfectly.
- A person who is good with numbers, particularly measuring with an inch ruler and working with fractions.
- Someone with an alert mind, who is constantly careful around machinery, power tools, dust, and chemicals.
- One with a fit body, who is able to stand all day and can lift up to 50 lbs.
- A thinker who enjoys a challenge, plans well, and solves problems. Woodworkers work from blueprints and visualize how parts will fit together.

Entry Requirements

You must be 18 or older and have reading and math achievement scores of not less than 6.0 (i.e. 6th grade) in a math and reading assessment test (TABE). Proof of a high school diploma or GED is helpful, but not required to apply. Financial aid is available to cover 100% of costs to those who qualify. You must undergo and pass a drug test.

Application Procedure

This includes an application, measurement test, TABE test, interview, and drug test to determine acceptance into the program.

GWTP is an approved vocational school by the Division of Private Business and Vocational Schools of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, www.ibhe.com, 217-782-2551

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that is Growing in Chicago!**

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