



## DECATUR BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL AFL-CIO

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*Meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 10:00 a.m.*



### **Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program**

The Decatur Building Trades Council has entered a partnership with our contractors' associations and local contractors such as NECA (National Electrical Contractors Association) and MCA (Mechanical Contractors Association), local non-profits, educational institutions including Richland Community College and Workforce Investment Solutions to create an apprenticeship readiness program creating opportunities for building trades careers for traditionally underserved populations including women, minorities and veterans. This program will be the only one of its kind in the Decatur Area to utilize the North American Building Trades Multi-Craft Core Curriculum or MC3. The MC3 is a standardized, comprehensive, 120-hour course designed to help young people and transitioning adults choose and succeed in apprenticeship programs that are appropriate for them. This training curriculum is endorsed nationally by 15 different Building Trades Unions covering careers from plumbers and electricians to painters and laborers. This pre-apprenticeship program will include both classroom instruction and hands on training through work experience. When participants complete the program, they will receive a nationally recognized certificate that gives them an advantage when applying to any of the Building Trades Apprenticeship programs both locally, and across the nation. In many cases they will gain direct entry or a direct interview to the apprenticeship program they are best suited for. North American Building Trades' registered apprenticeship programs have been providing pathways to good paying middle class jobs with bona-fide retirement and health and welfare benefits for decades. Government funding for infrastructure projects will be critical to ensure full time jobs are available for traditionally underserved individuals to enter our apprenticeship programs and start their careers in the building trades.

