

# DIRECT CURRENT

Independent Electrical Contractors of Washington

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## Blue Collar Jobs in Demand for 2010

edited from: Michelle Goodman, Feb 7, 2010



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The Independent Electrical Contractors of Washington Educational Training Fund (IEC of WA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting electrical apprenticeship. IEC of WA educates, trains and develops workers in the electrical construction industry; promoting and fostering safe working practices and encouraging equal opportunity in the electrical construction field. By partnering with industry professionals we strive to provide state-of-the-art electrical training to the diverse population of Washington State.

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"There is a blue collar renaissance going on right now," says Joe Lamacchia, author of *Blue Collar and Proud of It: The All-in-One-Resource for Finding Freedom, Financial Success, and Security Outside of the Cubicle*. "These are necessary jobs and they're not going to go anywhere. Our nation's infrastructure is crumbling. We want to turn this country green, and we don't have enough workers to do it. There's a lot of opportunity here." Following is a list of blue collar jobs experts say are most in demand this year, and their median annual salary according to online salary database, PayScale.com. Training for many of these positions includes a paid on-the-job apprenticeship, and the work can be physically rigorous.

**Electrician:** According to the BLS, employment growth in the field will increase 12 percent this decade. Those with the widest range of skills -- such as voice, data, and video wiring -- will be the most marketable, the BLS reports. Factor in the nation's move to green energy sources, says Shatkin, and you have a thriving occupation. As the BLS notes, electricians usually get their training during a four-year apprenticeship. State and municipal licensing is usually required. *Washington Median annual salary: \$66,019*

**Plumber, pipefitter, or steamfitter:** "With all the alternative energy sources that people are coming up with -- like solar heating, geothermal heat, and biofuel -- there's a big need for these workers," says Dr. Laurence Shatkin, co-author of "300 Best Jobs Without a Four-Year Degree." According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), these occupations are among the highest paid in the construction industry. Most of these workers receive their training in a technical school or community college, in addition to a four- or five-year apprenticeship, the BLS reports. In most states and municipalities, plumbers need to obtain a license.

**Heating, air conditioning, or refrigeration mechanic/installer:** Thanks to the government offering consumers tax incentives to upgrade their appliances to more energy-efficient models, the demand for such technicians remains generous, Shatkin says. In fact, the BLS estimates that job opportunities will increase by a whopping 28 percent this decade. To compete in the job market, the BLS says, a six-month to two-year vocational program or an apprenticeship are usually required. Same goes for state and local licenses.

*Michelle Goodman is a freelance business journalist and author of "The Anti 9-to-5 Guide" and "My So-Called Freelance Life." Source: Salary data from PayScale.com, a leading online provider of employee compensation data. The salaries listed are median annual salaries for full-time workers with 8 years of experience and include bonuses, commissions, and profit sharing.*

## AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS


Arcadia Electric, Inc  
Deadline: May 15, 2010

Home Depot  
Deadline: April 30, 2010

Puget Sound Washington IEC  
Deadline: April 24, 2010

# MARCH 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 OJT Reports due today	11 A&T Committee 5:00 pm	12 IEC Oregon Conference	13
14	<b>———— Deadline for Online Students to ————</b> <b>———— Schedule 3rd Quarter Exam ————</b>					20
21	22 Third Quarter Exam: Tacoma	23 Third Quarter Exam: Everett	24 Third Quarter Exam: Tri-Cities	25 Third Quarter Exam: Spokane	26	27
28	29	30	31			

 No School

# APRIL 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 OJT Reports due today
11	12 Wage Progressions	13	14	15 A&T Committee 5:00 pm Tax Day!!!	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Puget Sound WA IEC Scholarship Deadline
25	26	27	28	29	30 Home Depot Scholarship Deadline	

**2010 Graduation and Awards Banquet, Bellingham,  
and Annual Wire-Off competition (at the Everett school) will be June 26, 2010.**

# EXPIRING TRAINEE CARDS

It is *IMPERATIVE* that apprentices do not allow their cards to lapse. All contractors are required to send home any person who does not have a valid license to work, trainee or journeyman. Remember, your apprentice card is *NOT* your Trainee Card.

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Dahl Electric, Inc.

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IEC of Washington

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## Office Directory

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Debby .....x 101  
Project & CPR  
registration, Referrals,  
OJT reports, general  
questions  
Debby@iecofwa.org  
Dobbe .....x 100  
Grades/Absences  
Dobbe@iecofwa.org  
Theresa .....x 103  
Billing/Invoicing,  
Referrals, Veterans  
Benefits  
Theresa@iecofwa.org  
Jolie.....x 108  
A&T Committee, Board,  
Wage progressions, & all  
other issues  
Jolie@iecofwa.org

## Expiring in March 2010

Katsel, Derek C	3/23/2010
Knutson, Kyle L	3/7/2010
Meissner, Ryan	3/28/2010
Taylor, Benjamin L	3/22/2010
Wilson, Cameron L	3/4/2010

## Expiring in April 2010

Bonneux, Shawn	04/14/2010
Booth, Brooks	04/25/2010
Case, Daniel	04/17/2010
Dorsey, James	04/09/2010
Herrin, Joshua	04/17/2010
Kennedy, Matthew	04/15/2010
Trantham, Randy	04/22/2010

## Expiring in May 2010

Cavanaugh, Tyler	05/27/2010
Gomez, Richard	05/15/2010
Hanson, Kevin	05/05/2010
Isaman, Brian L	05/23/2010

Olim, Brett P	05/20/2010
Rudolph, Brandon L	05/09/2010

## Expiring in June 2010

Beukes, Jonathan R	06/28/2010
Bodman, Tyler A	06/05/2010
Gustafson, Jan-Erik S	06/10/2010
Kerlin, Donald	06/20/2010
Luangroongsub, Karoon	06/26/2010
Manning, Scott M	06/24/2010
Morris, Adam C	06/30/2010
Rowland, Kelly D	06/28/2010
Swanson, David L	06/23/2010
Wallitner, Kirk L	06/13/2010

## Expired

Halme, Aaron	2/25/2010
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## Never Certified

Chaffen, Ryley John

The Department of Labor and Industries will fine any apprentice who is found on a job site without a valid training card. To prevent this and to assist the apprentice in renewing his or her trainee card on time, IEC is preparing affidavits for the above listed apprentices. Affidavits will be mailed to the apprentice's home.

**CONTRACTORS employing an apprentice listed as NOT or NEVER licensed, PLEASE REMOVE THEM FROM THE JOB SITE IMMEDIATELY.**



## COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR...

Hello!

by Terry Du Beau

It sure looks & feels like spring this week but don't get your hopes up, the rain will be back! Don't forget the scholarship deadlines that are coming up. Puget Sound Washington Chapter IEC and Home Depot both have great scholarships with deadlines in April. Both of these scholarships want input from our IEC of WA office. You need to get those requests in ASAP. Next month Arcadia Electric, Inc. scholarship applications are due. These scholarships are a great opportunity to get your school paid for next year.

In January we changed how the quarter exams are done. All changes come with a few problems and this one did! We know about them and we are getting an handle on them for next time. 3rd quarter exams are in March. To make this work we are going to have to stick to the deadlines for moving locations and how the tests are done. We are moving the test for Tacoma. You will be getting a letter with the new location.

Talk to you soon! **TERRY**

# MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

## 2010 GRADUATION & AWARDS UPDATE:

OUR JUNE 26, 2010 VENUE WILL BE

BEST WESTERN LAKEWAY INN, BELLINGHAM, WA

## APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COMMITTEE:

MARCH 11, 2010

APRIL 15, 2010

MAY 13, 2010

JUNE 10, 2010

JULY 8, 2010

AUGUST 12, 2010

SEPTEMBER 9, 2010

OCTOBER 14, 2010

NOVEMBER 11, 2010

DECEMBER 9, 2010

IEC of Washington Educational Training Fund  
11630 Airport Road, Suite 300  
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*Independent Electrical Contractors  
of Washington  
supports our troops.*

*Thank you for your service.*

The Independent Electrical Contractors of Washington Educational Training Fund (IEC of WA) is dedicated to promoting and supporting electrical apprenticeship training in conjunction with the Washington State Apprenticeship Act, RCW Chapter 49.04, the Federal Labor Standards, 29CFR 29 and the policies and procedures established by the ETF for merit-shop contractors. IEC of WA is an equal opportunity program. The recruitment, selection, employment and training of apprentices during their apprenticeship shall be without discrimination because of race, religion, national origin, or sex.