



What will an apprentice learn?

All apprenticeships are based on a set of professional competencies developed in partnership with industry subject matter experts. Apprentices also gain the skills and knowledge needed to earn a nationally-recognized industry credential as well as a set of professional skills aimed at enhancing the apprentice's post-secondary success.

How much college credit will students earn?

Employers fund a specific training plan — including higher-education coursework — that is designed to make you better at your job, and ultimately, pave the way to your successful career. Employers have committed up to \$4000 for this training plan. Employer-paid coursework, which ranges from one to four college courses, begins in the summer before the third year of apprenticeship and continues through the third year. The courses have been vetted by CareerWise and industry partners for career relevancy.

Are the debt-free college courses transferable to any higher ed institution?

We try to select courses that are widely transferable to many colleges and universities throughout the state. However, it is ultimately up to the college or university whether they accept coursework, so apprentices are encouraged to reach out to colleges or universities they are interested in to ask about credit transferability.

Why does the apprenticeship last three years?

Modern youth apprenticeships typically last three years (or more) because that's the length of time it takes for students to become work-ready in their given career field—and the depth of commitment signals to employers that apprentices are ready to step into these careers as productive, full-time employees. In most cases, the apprentice will graduate high school after the second year of a three-year apprenticeship. Leading up to that third year—the first post-high school year—apprentices are supported with strong academic and career advising and encouraged to continue their education in parallel with their apprenticeship to reach their goals.

What if a student wants to go to college immediately after high school?

Many apprenticeship benefits are realized in the third year—that's when most of the college courses are taken (and paid for!) and students may earn their nationally recognized industry certification. And, completion of an apprenticeship looks good on a college application. For students who choose to attend college immediately following high school, there are options to continue their apprenticeship. Students may apprentice during the summers while the rest of the year they're attending out-of-state schools, or continue a blended classroom/workplace schedule if they're attending a local school. These options are at the discretion of the employers.

Can the apprentice still participate in extracurricular activities?

In some cases, extracurricular activities may be accommodated. Students should be clear about their time commitments during the interview process to ensure the employer is working with accurate information regarding the apprentice's potential work schedule.

What are the minimum requirements to apply for an apprenticeship?

Apprenticeship is for any student who believes he or she could thrive in a meaningful applied-learning environment. A potential apprentice must be on-track to graduate high school and must work with his or her counselor to ensure the class schedule can support an apprenticeship. And, the student must be willing to commit to apprenticeship for three years. Healthcare apprenticeships are four years.

How does a student apply? Are they hired by CareerWise or a business?

First, a student should check with a school counselor to make sure their class schedule can support an apprenticeship. Students apply in the spring semester for apprenticeships that begin in the summer or fall. The Hiring Hub—a job site on the CareerWise webpage—is where students will find all of the available positions for the year. It's competitive! Employers are interviewing multiple candidates and are hiring the best fit for their company. Just like any other hiring process, students should bring their A-game and research the positions and companies, tailor their resume and cover letter, and do some mock interviews. Your student's school and CareerWise have online resources to help with those things. Watch for school announcements about workshops held throughout the year.

APPLY BEGINNING JANUARY 27TH

In the meantime, talk to your student's counselor and visit the CareerWise site for more details, as well as resume and application preparation at www.CareerWiseColorado.org

