At NABTU, Safety Always Comes First

The 14 affiliated unions that make up North America’s Building Trades Unions (NABTU) have a long and deep commitment to their members’ safety and health. Leaders of these unions believe safety and health training in their registered apprenticeship programs – and for their journey level workers – is key to preparing workers to understand the risks of construction, and ways to mitigate that risk.

Each of these 14 unions has basic requirements for both instructor and apprentice training programs in occupational safety and health. Nationally, at least 5,000 instructors are OSHA outreach trainers who have been trained through NABTU’s OSHA Training Institute Education Center operated by CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training. These trainers, in turn, deliver safety and health training through the OSHA 10- and 30-hour programs to well over 70,000 apprentices and journey-level workers each year. Additionally, each training program offers many more safety and health training specific to the technical aspects of their particular craft. For example:

The Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers Union apprenticeship training includes the OSHA-10, Infection Control, asbestos, lead, hazardous waste worker training, respiratory protection, scaffolding safety, confined space, fall protection, process safety management, mining safety, and general chemical safety.

The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers’ apprenticeship training includes OSHA-10 and OSHA 30-hour training, built up and swing stage scaffold safety training, silica training, and fall protection training.

The International Union of Operating Engineers apprenticeship training includes the OSHA 10-hour training as well as training in respirators, confined spaces, excavations, underground utility hazards, electrical hazards, hazardous waste worker training, jobsite safety awareness safe crane use, rigging, and signaling.
The Laborers’ International Union of North America apprenticeship training includes the OSHA 10-hour, confined spaces, fall protection, first aid/CPR, hazard communication, scaffold safety, excavation safety, and flagger safety.

The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades’ apprenticeship program includes the OSHA 30 and 10, fall protection, scaffolding, fire safety, asbestos, lead, confined space, respiratory protection, crane safety, hazardous waste training, disaster site safety, and infection control/risk assessment training.

The United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers’ apprenticeship training program includes both OSHA 10 and 30, as well as fall protection awareness, ladder and stairway safety, first aid training, burn prevention, power line and electrical safety, respirator training, ergonomics, hazards in roofing, and ICRA (Infection Control Risk Assessment) awareness training.