

WISCONSIN OPERATING ENGINEERS APPRENTICESHIP VS. ASSOCIATED TRAINING SERVICES

SCHOOL	ASSOCIATED TRAINING SERVICES (ATS)	WISCONSIN OPERATING ENGINEERS TRAINING CENTER
TUITION CHARGED TO STUDENT	\$16,495 ¹	\$1,850
HOUSING COST	\$120/week at Water Tower Inn (owned by ATS)	Housing cost for students is \$0 Students receive \$100/week per diem to help offset costs of travel/housing
BOARD	3 meals a day estimated cost \$30/day	Free lunch provided daily at the training facility
NUMBER OF WEEKS/HOURS INSTRUCTION	7 weeks (approx. 300 hours)	10 weeks (approx. 400 hours)
NUMBER OF ON-THE-JOB TRAINING HOURS	NONE	6,000 hours min. (student receives hourly wage of 70-90% of full journeyman during 4 years of apprenticeship program)
TOTAL COST OF THE PROGRAM CHARGED TO THE STUDENT	\$31,745 (approx.) unless government subsidies used	\$1,850 (approx.) Students are paid an additional 10% on their wages to cover this cost & end up with approx. \$22,000 surplus
PRIVATE DOLLARS CONTRIBUTED	NONE	Balance of the apprenticeship program is paid for by the skill trust fund, which is funded with member-directed contributions from journeymen
TAXPAYER SUBSIDIES UP TO FULL COST OF THE PROGRAM	Workforce Investment Act, Trade Adjustment Act, Displaced Workers, Displaced Farmers, Vocational Rehabilitation, Tribal Education, Veteran's Benefits, National Farm Workers Jobs Program ²	NONE
AVERAGE HOURLY PAY UPON COMPLETION OF PROGRAM (EXCLUSIVE OF BENEFITS)	\$15 ³	\$29 (first year apprentice hourly rate) plus pension & health benefits ⁴

¹Cost of the 7 week Combination Program – Heavy Equipment Training Program I and II + Rig/Sig from the State of Wisconsin Education Approval Program website, <https://dspseap.wi.gov/search/viewschool> ²Government subsidies listed on ATS's website, https://www.operator-school.com/financial_assistance.php.

³Starting wage reported by ATS Career Services, <https://www.operator-school.com/faq.php>.

⁴First year journeymen, i.e., after completing the 4-year apprentice program, make an average of \$41/hr., exclusive of pension and health benefits.