

HOW WOMEN ARE FINDING SUCCESS IN NONTRADITIONAL OCCUPATIONS

8.9%

Women represent just **8.9%** of the construction workforce in the United States. But the skilled trades offer abundant opportunities for women who want to build a thriving career: high pay, affordable and fast educational requirements, and a path to becoming your own boss (if that's what you want.)

Here are powerful reasons why women who want career success and financial security should consider **the skilled trades**.

WELDING

The **AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY** predicts there will be a shortage of **400,000 operators by 2024**.

Industry **needs trained welders** to fill those spots.

Welders have the opportunity to **work in several industries** across the country.

HIRING WELDERS

more than **50%** products require

HVAC

The demand for **HVAC installers** is expected to **grow by 14% through 2024** in the United States. That's much faster than average.



HVAC service technicians can climb the career ladder to become installers, operation managers, and distribution managers.

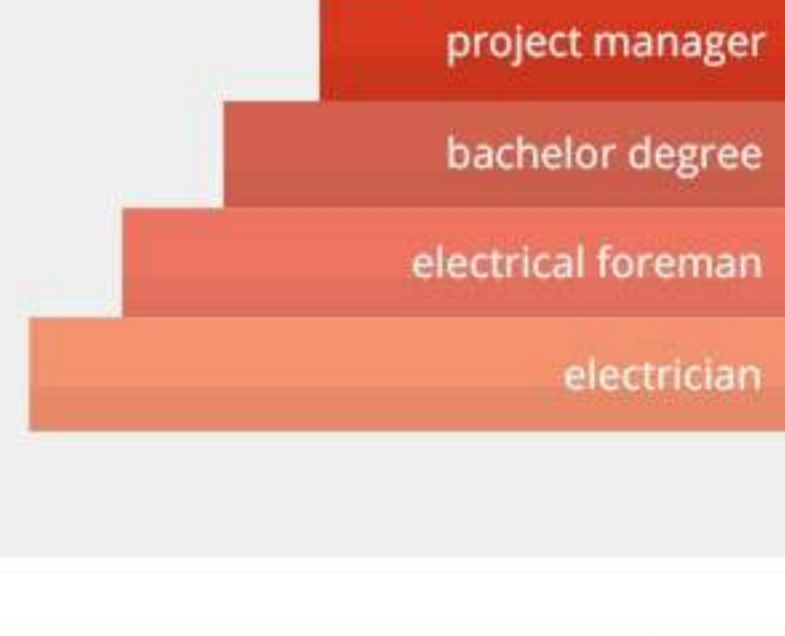


ELECTRICIAN

The demand for **electricians** is expected to **grow by 14% through 2024** in the U.S. (Also faster than average.)



An **electrician** can become an **electrical foreman**. They can also choose to pursue a **bachelor's degree** to become a project manager or project engineer.



EARN MORE MONEY

WOMEN WHO WORK **FULL TIME** EARN A MEDIAN INCOME OF

\$39,621

Skilled trades can offer **greater earning potential** than career fields traditionally dominated by women.



WOMEN DOMINATED FIELD ⚡ **AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE**



CHILDCARE

\$22,310

WOMEN DOMINATED FIELD ⚡ **AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE**



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

\$35,200

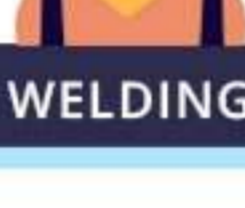
WOMEN DOMINATED FIELD ⚡ **AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE**



BOOKKEEPING

\$38,990

TRADE ⚡ **AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE**



WELDING

\$40,970



HVAC TECHNICIAN

\$47,380



ELECTRICIAN

\$55,590

\$\$\$ Experienced tradeswomen can make six figures. \$\$\$

AFFORDABLE EDUCATION

A **TRADE SCHOOL DEGREE IS MUCH MORE AFFORDABLE** THAN A COLLEGE DEGREE.



AVERAGE COST OF COLLEGE DEGREE : 4 YEARS OR MORE : **\$127,000**

AVERAGE COST OF TRADE SCHOOL : LESS THAN A YEAR : **\$33,000**

SAVINGS : MORE THAN 3 YEARS : **\$94,000**

The skilled trades let you start your career **faster and with less debt**.

There are also **opportunities to help pay** for trade school.

In 2014, the US department of labor announced a total of **\$1.9 million in financial grants** as part of the Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations program.

Women can also apply for **Federal Pell or SEOG grants** to help pay for trade school.



PERFECT FOR MID-CAREER WORKERS

YOU DON'T HAVE TO START EARLY TO ENTER A TRADE CAREER. THESE FIELDS **WELCOME WORKERS OF ALL AGES**.

WELCOME ALL AGES

53% of skilled-trade workers in the U.S. are **45 YEARS** and OLDER

the age of **AVERAGE** welder is **55 YEARS**

fewer than **20%** are under **35 YEARS**

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN IN TRADES

THERE ARE **ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP SUPPORT TRADESWOMEN** ACROSS THE COUNTRY. HERE ARE THE BIGGEST ONES.



SISTERS IN THE BUILDING TRADES

"The mission of the Sisters in the Building Trades is to **expand a network of active women** that will affirm building trades sisters as a positive and growing part of the construction workforce."

TRADESWOMEN, INC.

"Tradeswomen, Inc. (TWI) was **one of California's first organizations** for women in the trades and continues to be one of the most active and effective organizations in the nation focused exclusively on the needs of women in the skilled trades."

WOMEN IN HVACR

"Women in HVACR exists to improve the lives of our members by **providing professional avenues to connect** with other women growing their careers in the HVACR industry."

ENTREPRENEURIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Tradeswomen can build a career with one of the many **companies** who need their skills.

But if your heart is set on being your own boss, you also have the option of **starting your own business**. **14.8%** of people who work in construction are **self-employed**, the second highest of all major industries.



Approximate % who are **SELF-EMPLOYED** in trades:

HVAC MECHANIC 15%

ELECTRICIAN 11%

WELDING 7%

SOURCES:

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