



**Rocky Mountain Chapter IEC, Inc.  
IEC Training Fund, Inc.**

480 East 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Building 5, Unit A/B  
Denver, CO 80229-6215

**Telephone: 303-853-4886; Fax: 303-853-4909**

**Website: [www.iecrm.org](http://www.iecrm.org)**

## **Welcome to IEC!**

We would like to thank you for your interest in apprenticeship opportunities through IEC. IEC is both a trade association for electrical contractors (Rocky Mountain Chapter Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc.) and an electrical training program (Independent Electrical Contractors Training Fund, Inc.) Most of our local IEC members only hire applicants who have completed the following process through our offices. When contractor members call our offices for the names of applicants, we forward names of qualified applicants to them. Some contractor members are registered with the Office of Apprenticeship and Training (OA) and others choose not to be. Once you have completed the process and have a better understanding of the differences, you will be asked if you want to work only for an OA participating contractor, or if you would like to go to work for either an OA *or* non-OA contractor.

All OA employers and most non-OA employers will expect their employees to attend apprenticeship classes. The apprenticeship training is a four-year program in which students and apprentices attend a four-hour class one evening a week for eighteen weeks, two semesters per year for four years. Tuition and books are both at discounted rates for students who are employed by IEC members. How the tuition and books are paid is at the discretion of the employer, IEC does not dictate or control this in any way. Some employers will pay for the schooling up front, and some will have the apprentice pay, reimbursing based on the employee's letter grade. These are only two scenarios, there could be many more. Such payment plans might be something you would want to clarify with your prospective employer prior to being hired.

Please look over the qualifications as listed on the enclosed Applicant Information Sheet. If you qualify and would like to set up an appointment to fill out an application and read over the OA standards, please contact the Rocky Mountain Chapter IEC at **303-853-4886**.

Appointments to apply are typically scheduled on Tuesdays, twice a month at 1:00 PM. Applicants are then scheduled for a 15-minute interview with the Training Committee. Applicants are given a rating based on their interview. After the interview, the process is complete and your name will be given out as requests are received from the IEC members. We make no guarantees that we can find employment for you, but there is no charge for this service.

Any further questions may be directed to the IEC office **303-853-4886**.

(Continued on next page)

## Frequently Asked Questions

- *How long does it take to become an electrician?*

The state requires an apprentice serve under a journeyman for a four-year term prior to being allowed to take the state-licensing exam.

- *Does an apprentice have to attend school to become a journeyman electrician?*

No, the state only requires the on-the-job training however; the training an apprentice receives will only be as good or as poor as his supervising journeyman's ability to convey information to the apprentice. Most apprentices who learn only through on-the-job training will know only to do things the way they were told. They will not understand the theory behind why it is done that way. Experience has shown the opportunities to advance to foreman and/or other supervisory position is greater for those who have received formal classroom training.

- *Do I have to be employed to attend school?*

Although apprentice students do not need to be working in the trade to attend classes, it is highly recommended that. The classroom training supplements the on-the-job training, but doesn't replace it.

- *How much does it cost to attend school?*

As of the 2009/2010 school year, tuition for apprentice students employed with an IEC member company is **\$565.00** per 18-week semester. Students should also expect to pay an additional \$300 to \$400 per year for books.

- *What is the beginning wage for an apprentice?*

Again, IEC does not dictate the wages and wages will vary from one contractor to another. For those contractors participating in the OA program, the OA Standards ensure an apprentice will start at 35% of the current first year journeyman wage. Apprentices in the OA program will also receive 5% increases every six months for the entire four-year time frame based on the 'Apprentice Wage Schedule'. Generally speaking, the wage offered by both OA and non-OA contractors, is very competitive in today's market, and should be discussed and clarified with the prospective employer.

If you wish to contact the State Electrical Board, you may do so at **303-894-2300**.