

CAREER PROFILES

Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers:

Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers assist skilled tradespersons and perform labouring activities at construction sites, such as preparing and cleaning up construction sites, moving materials and equipment, and performing demolition and excavation activities.

Wage/Salary Information:

\$30,150 is the median annual salary found in local job-postings.

\$20.20/hour is the median wage reported locally.

Commonly Listed Skills in Job Postings:

- Teamwork
- Manual dexterity
- Detail oriented
- Blueprint reading
- Tool use
- Oral and written communication
- Forklift driving
- Self-motivated
- Problem solving
- Heavy equipment operation
- Work independently
- Numeracy

Job Duties:

Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers are responsible for assisting with a plethora of construction project activities. Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers assist tradespersons such as Carpenters, Bricklayers, Cement Finishers, Roofers, and Glaziers in construction activities. They assist heavy equipment operators to secure special attachments to equipment, signal operators to guide them in moving equipment and aid in other activities. Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers also assist in many other activities, such as assisting in aligning pipes and performing related activities during oil and gas pipeline construction, assisting in drilling and blasting rock at construction sites, and assisting miners in excavating and in setting up and operating various drills and other surface mining machinery.

Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers must also be aware of safety protocols, as they will be assisting in potentially dangerous situations on construction sites. They are also sometimes responsible for cleaning up chemical spills and other contaminants, and removing asbestos and other hazardous materials. Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers may also be responsible for directing traffic at or near construction sites.

Working Conditions:

Work takes place indoors and outdoors in various weather conditions.

Workers may be exposed to hazardous substances such as asbestos insulation.

Work takes place near or with equipment, instruments, machinery or power/hand tools that may be a potential source of accident or injury.

Workers may be exposed to flying particles, noise, vibration, strong odours and dust.

Workplaces such as construction sites, underground sites and erected support structures can be hazardous.

Career Pathways:

Construction Labourers who are able to perform a wide range of tasks should have the best job opportunities. Therefore, experience in the field can be of great value. Job opportunities for Helpers will vary by occupation.

Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers are employed by construction companies, trade and labour contractors, and surface mine and quarry operations. Below are potential career paths for Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers:

- Asphalt Spreader
- Bricklayer Helper
- Carpenter Helper
- Concrete Mixer Helper
- Construction Labourer
- Demolition Worker
- Driller Helper – Surface Mining
- Drywall Sander
- Flagman/Woman
- Glazier Helper
- Plumber Helper
- Roofer Helper
- Stabber – Pipeline Construction

Check out more possible career pathways on [WEexplore](#).

Education and Training Pathways:

If you're interested in becoming a Construction Trades Helper or Labourer, you can begin your apprenticeship or attend a local training/education program.

Apprenticeship Details:

Concrete Pump Operator

- Certification: Voluntary (not required to practice this profession in Ontario)
- Red Seal: No
- On-the-job training: 2,000 hours
- In-class training: 159 hours

Construction Craft Worker

- Certification: Voluntary (not required to practice this profession in Ontario)
- Red Seal: No
- On-the-job training: 2,400 hours
- In-class training: 480 hours

Individuals interested in pursuing an apprenticeship pathway, should follow these steps:

- 1) Get hired – by an employer/sponsor/union
- 2) Apply online to register as an apprentice at www.ontario.ca/page/start-apprenticeship
- 3) Sign a training agreement with your employer/sponsor and the Employment Ontario apprenticeship office.
- 4) Become a Member of the Ontario College of Trades Apprentices Class at www.collegeoftrades.ca/membership
- 5) Keep a record of the hours you work
- 6) Achieve the competencies listed in your training standard if required in your trade
- 7) Complete all of the training requirements in your trade and you will receive a Certificate of Apprenticeship (CoA).
- 8) Write the Exam for the Certificate of Qualification if required in your trade

If you are currently in high school and would like to begin an apprenticeship, visit oyap.com for more information about the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.

Individuals unsure about whether to pursue an apprenticeship or not, can learn more by visiting www.ontario.ca/page/prepare-apprenticeship.

Disclaimer: *The educational institution reserves the right to change information without notice, and may result in discrepancies between their information and the information presented above. If any errors are found, please report them to info@workforcewindsoressex.com.*