



While providing challenging and intentional programming, Chicago Builds' mission is to provide students pathways to the building trades after high school. Our passion is to inspire students to do incredible things. Chicago Builds serves as a model for specialized trade schools for high school students interested in working in the building trades as a post-secondary career. Chicago Builds is an IL Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program site and offers the Master Builder program in collaboration with City Colleges of Chicago.

Who can apply?

Any 11th or 12th grader in good standing towards graduation is eligible to apply for a seat in Chicago Builds

When do students apply?

We encourage interested students to apply between February and May of their Sophomore or Junior year of high school.

Where do I get the application?

Applications can be completed online:
www.chicagobuilds.org

Filing Deadline: Friday, May 24th, 2024

Is Chicago Builds an accredited course?

Students can earn up to 5 credits over the two-year span (1.25 credits/semester you attend the program)

What are the qualifications?

There are no minimum requirements to apply. However, students should be interested in construction, committed to attending the program each day, and willing to take advantage of work-based learning opportunities as they arise.

What time of the day is Chicago Builds run?

Chicago Builds offers two cohorts per day; AM cohort (8:45 am-10:45 am) and PM cohort (2:00 pm-4:00 pm). Students must work with their home school's counselor to determine which session fits into their schedule.

Chicago Builds offers students interested in a career in the building trades access to:

- High school credits in a hands-on class (up to 5 credits)
- Technical skills needed to start a career after high school
- Certification support required for a career in construction
- Preparation for union entrance exams
- Integration of Construction Math and Literacy skills in classes
- Dual Credit opportunities
- Access to marketable construction industry disciplines
- Entrepreneurship skill development
- Networking and Resume Writing Supports
- 6 Seasoned industry trained instructors
- 5 Industry specific training suites
- Paid Summer job placement/internships
- Dedicated post-secondary support teams
- Workplace and job shadowing opportunities

How does Chicago Builds Work?

Year 1 Students participate in four, 10-week rotations between the construction pathways. During each rotation, students will learn from and network with industry experts in the construction field. After the four rotations are completed by year-end, students are encouraged to select one area of concentration (Welding, Electricity, or Carpentry for Second Year Curriculum).

Year 2: After students complete the Year 1 rotations at Chicago Builds, students are able to apply to return for year 2. During the year 2 pathways, students' post-secondary plans begin to take a more defined shape. Along with concentrating on one specific curriculum area, students are trained daily in preparation for potential apprenticeship entrance examinations. The daily subject matter in year 2 is designed to prepare each student to move easily into the construction workforce or pre-apprenticeship programs for the various construction trades.



Chicago Builds 2024-2025 Application Process

The application for next year's Chicago Builds citywide construction training program is now open to all rising 11th and 12th grade (current 10th and 11th grade) CPS students. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 PM on May 24th, 2024. While there are no minimum academic requirements for admission to Chicago Builds, priority will be given to rising Juniors entering the program.

Applications will be accepted for students once they complete all associated application paperwork including the Parental Consent Form and the Student & Parent Expectations Contract.



Chicago Builds Information Sessions

Saturday, February 24 th , 2024	Chicago Builds @ Dunbar High School 3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616	10:30am - 12:00pm
Wednesday, March 6 th , 2024	Chicago Builds @ Dunbar High School 3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Saturday, March 23 th , 2024	Chicago Builds @ Dunbar High School 3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616	10:30am - 12:00pm
Wednesday, April 10 th , 2024	Chicago Builds @ Dunbar High School 3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616	6:00pm - 7:30pm

Step by Step Instructions

Step 1 – It is highly recommended that students and parents visit Chicago Builds located at Dunbar HS, 3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616.

Step 2 – Complete the online [Chicago Builds Application](#)

Step 3 – Print and complete the [Parent Consent Form](#) and [Student and Parent Expectations Contract](#)

Step 4 – Return all documents to the Chicago Builds office via email (chicagobuilds@cps.edu) by May 24th, 2024. Early enrollment applications will close February 29th, 2024.

Chicago Builds is here to help! If you have questions give us a call at 773-534-0909 or send us an email at ChicagoBuilds@cps.edu. We are happy to answer your questions or set up a time for you to come see the program in action.

**CHICAGO
BUILDS**

