



Mission Statement

OKNECA is the voice of the electrical contracting industry, working to promote higher standards, quality workmanship and training for a skilled electrician work force. OKNECA members are committed to the safety of your family, neighbors, constituents and the general public.

www.okneca.org

NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

Careers in Electrical Contracting

Electrical contracting is the business of bringing lighting, power, and communications to buildings and communities across the United States. In the U.S., it is an industry valued at over \$130 billion annually, and made up of over 70,000 electrical contracting firms employing over 650,000 electrical workers.

The route into this industry is through apprenticeship. Electrical apprenticeships combine college-level classroom learning with on-the-job training. Electrical apprenticeships last for about five years, with increasing responsibilities and earning a higher wage each year. Apprentices completing the program are known as journeymen electricians.

What is an Electrician?

An electrician is a person trained and licensed to perform electrical work. Electrical work is a highly technical profession that requires a thorough understanding of how electricity works and the materials and components used to deliver power, as well as electrical safety and standards.

What is an Electrical Contractor?

An electrical contractor is a licensed business person or firm that performs specialized construction work related to the design, installation, and maintenance of electrical and communication systems. In Oklahoma, a licensed electrician must pass an exam to become a licensed electrical contractor.

Electrical contractors are classified by the work they perform.

“Outside” or “line” contractors are responsible for high-voltage power transmission and distribution lines.

“Inside” electrical contractors provide electricity to buildings and structures.

“Integrated building systems” (IBS) or “Voice/Data/Video” (VDV) electrical contractors work primarily with low-voltage installations, including back-up power, climate controls, wireless networks, energy-efficient lighting, telecommunications, fiber optics, and security systems.

Career Interests

- Do any of these career fields interest you? Why or Why not?
- Does the idea of working with electricity sound interesting to you?
- If so, contact your school counselor to learn about the 59 career opportunities within the electrical industry.

