Program Outcomes Over 75% of all youth apprenticeship graduates enroll in technical college or a university after high school, according to follow-up surveys. Over 60% complete their degrees, compared to a national average completion rate of approximately 25%.

A separate study determined that YA graduates complete their associate degrees at a Wisconsin technical college at a rate three times greater than the average student!

Over 85% of the youth apprenticeship graduates are

employed after leaving high school — many continue to work for their original employers while attending college.

Why Does It Work? Hands-on learning under the supervision of a skilled mentor combined with classroom instruction engages students in the learning process and motivates them to focus on their future!

"The experience as a whole was so valuable to my life and future as an employee. I feel like I am ten steps ahead of my peers."

Khrist Hanson, YA Graduate, Marshfield

Want to Know More? Youth Apprenticeship programs are located all over Wisconsin, in over 70% of Wisconsin's school districts. Training is available in a variety of areas, such as health services, auto technology, biotechnology, drafting & design, finance, information technology, lodging management, manufacturing, printing, agriculture, tourism, welding, and others.

Contact the School to Career Coordinator at your local high school for more information about Youth Apprenticeship programs available in your area! Or visit: http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/youthapprenticeship/

STATE OF WISCONSIN
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Youth Apprenticeship

YA

Investing in Wisconsin's Future

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

The Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship program, authorized in 1991 by the Wisconsin Legislature, provides high school juniors and seniors with the opportunity to explore their chosen career while still in high school. Students receive occupational related instruction and on-the-job training as part of their regular high school schedule and they leave high school with a state skill certificate and career-related work experience. The program prepares students for all options after high school, whether it's directly into the workforce, a technical college, or a university.

Employers play an active role in developing the skills of their future workforce by hiring Youth Apprentices and training them to industry skill standards. Employers pay the students minimum wage or higher and provide a minimum of 450 hours of supervised work per year.

"Because of our involvement in the Youth Apprenticeship program, we are able to custom-design our future workforce."

Memorial Community Hospital, Edgerton

Does YA Work for Employers? Over 85% of YA graduates are offered jobs by their employers at the end of their training. 98% of employers say they would recommend the program to other businesses.

"Not only have we gained extraordinary job candidates from the Youth Apprenticeship program, but our employees and managers have learned from the students."

First Federal Savings Bank, LaCrosse

Over 10,000 Students have graduated from the Youth Apprenticeship program and many YA graduates are now mentoring a new generation of Youth Apprentices!

Does YA Work for Students? Youth Apprentices graduate from high school with marketable skills and valuable work experience. Grade point averages typically improve while in the program because students become more engaged in the learning process. 70% of YA graduates employed full-time are earning $10.00 per hour or higher.

"My apprenticeship made me stop skipping class and I graduated with a 4.0 grade point average my senior year."

Ann Stanton, YA Graduate, Manitowoc

Youth Apprenticeship gives students the opportunity to work with adults in a professional setting, and learn skills that they cannot learn in a classroom. They also add career-related work experience to their resume!

"This is a way to address the shortage of qualified technicians in our business."

Schmit Bros. Ford, Saukville

Eligibility High school juniors and seniors in a public or private secondary school are eligible to apply for the program through their local high school. Students must enroll in Youth Apprenticeship related classes and be available for 10 – 20 hours of work per week during the school year. Students must maintain passing grades in school, work for at least 450 hours (one year program) or 900 hours (two year program), achieve required work skills, and meet high school graduation requirements in order to complete the program.

"Practical skills are taught at a job site...learning these skills earns you respect and dignity as well as builds you a large network of contacts for the future."

Clayton Brath, YA Graduate, Shawano

Upon successful completion, the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development issues students a Certificate of Occupational Proficiency. Graduates may be eligible to receive advanced standing or transcripted credit at a local technical college or credit toward the admission requirements for the University of Wisconsin (in selected programs).