

WORK *Wise*

Why Many Consider Roofing As A Career

(NAPSA)—Things are looking up for people who want to make a career move.

Roofing, a skilled and well-paid trade, offers advancement opportunities for young men and women starting out as well as people experienced in other fields seeking new challenges.

America's 30,000 roofing contractors now employ more than 158,000 people and are looking for thousands of new workers to keep up with projected industry growth.

To be a roofer, you need to be in good physical condition and have a good sense of balance.

A high school education or its equivalent is helpful, as are courses in mechanical drawing and basic mathematics.

Entry-level roofers are trained and gain experience—earning while they learn—working for experienced roofing contractors. Other options include completing an apprenticeship program offered by a roofing contractor or one sponsored by various locals of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers.

Roofers learn to install and repair a variety of roofs—built up, asphalt, pitch, elastoplastic, thermoplastic, metal, shingle, shake, slate, tile and more—often incorporating skills regularly used in plumbing, carpentry, electrical and other fields.

As roofers pick up the skills of the trade, they have opportunities to progress steadily through the ranks of roofing positions—from trainee to mechanic/journeyman and on to foreman, supervisor and



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beyond. With advancement comes higher pay and more benefits, plus continuous opportunities to develop new skills.

Roofing offers wages that compare well with related construction trades, factory and other jobs, including the opportunity to earn as much as or more than people with college degrees.

While roofing wages vary based on skill levels, geography and other factors, top earnings can reach as high as \$70,000 to \$80,000 annually and more.

For additional information about opportunities in roofing, call The Roofing Industry's 24-hour, toll-free job information hotline at 1-888-ROOF-321. Ask for a free brochure and a list of roofing contractors in your area with job openings.