Pre-Apprenticeship Summer Bootcamp Program
The Vermont Construction Academy (VCA) is a non-profit trade training center located in Winooski, Vermont, dedicated to addressing the state's shortage of skilled trades professionals. We provide hands-on training and industry-recognized certifications through programs such as our Carpentry Boot Camp and Commercial Carpentry Registered Apprenticeship.

Our state-of-the-art facility includes modern classrooms and a fully equipped mock job site,

supported by industry partners, to prepare individuals for successful careers in construction.

We are excited to launch **two Summer Pre-Apprenticeship Bootcamps**, designed to serve as a critical pathway into the construction industry.

Program Details

- **Schedule:** Monday–Friday, 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM
- **Target Audience:** Primarily recent high school graduates who are interested in exploring the skilled trades. The program is also open to individuals seeking a career change, and there is no upper age limit.
    - Prospective students should be 17 years old or turning 17 during the summer of 2026. If space allows, rising seniors may be accepted to help prepare them for flexible pathway opportunities during their senior year.
- **Materials:** All tools and materials are provided. Students only need to bring boots and longpants. Sturdy footwear, such as hiking boots with high ankle support, may be acceptable—please check before purchasing new items.
- **Duration:**
  Bootcamp 1: 17 Days
  June 24, 25, 26, 29, 30
  July 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
  Note:NoclassFriday,July3,fortheholiday weekend.
  Bootcamp 2: 17 Days
  July21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29
  August 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21
  Note:NoclasstheweekofAugust3duetoa training event at VCA.

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Program Goals and Curriculum

This program introduces students to the construction trades while building essential employability skills, workplace safety knowledge, and basic tool proficiency.

Students receive instruction based on the nationally recognized NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) curriculum, with the opportunity to earn

industry-recognized credentials(IRCs) by passing associated assessments.

Key NCCER modules include:

- Basic Safety
- Hand Tools
- Power Tools
- Basic Employability Skills
- Basic Communication Skills
- Introduction to Construction Drawings

Additional skills emphasized throughout the program:

- Tape measure reading
- Basic construction math
- Teamwork
- Accountability
- Positive mental attitude
- Other foundational employment and trade skills

While passing assessments is encouraged, it is not required. However, credentials earned can significantly improve placement opportunities with employers.

Attendance is expected for every class and is an important part of demonstrating commitment to the program and a future in the trades. VCA does not provide makeup instruction or replacement materials for missed classes.

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Credit and Documentation

Whether students receive high school credit—and how much—is determined by their home school district. VCA will provide detailed documentation of attendance, completed modules, and any credentials earned to support credit decisions.

To discuss these opportunities, please contact **ross@abcnhvt.org**.

Employer Engagement and Career Pathways

Students will have multiple opportunities to meet prospective employers from the construction industry. These sessions may include presentations, hands-on demonstrations, and discussions about various trades, such as:

- Commercial carpentry
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- HVAC
- Commercial driving
- Heavy equipment operation

If a student secures employment with a participating employer, that employer may sponsor them in a Vermont Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship program.

Following completion of the program, students may have opportunities to participate in coordinated work-based learning experiences or job shadows, arranged in partnership with their home high school.

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Program Cost

The cost for the 2026 program is **$2,750 per student**.

We strongly encourage schools, students, and families to seek funding through VSAC grants and other sources. VCA is committed to accessibility and can consider need-based adjustments on a case-by-case basis. We are happy to collaborate with your staff to identify funding opportunities.

This Pre-Apprenticeship Bootcamp offers a valuable, **fast-paced** experience that introduces students to high-demand, well-paying careers in the skilled trades while providing the opportunity to earn industry-recognized credentials and build a pathway into the workforce.

Application and Next Steps

Please feel free to contact:

Ross Lavoie
ross@abcnhvt.org
802-598-5111

for more information, to discuss partnerships, or to arrange a visit to our facility.

We look forward to working with you to prepare Vermont's next generation of construction professionals.

For those who have already been in contact and have interested students, please use the link below to register and submit their information.