

ABA Electrical Apprenticeship Program
Doug Mills: Apprenticeship Director

Did you know that the largest employer in the United States is the construction industry? And it's not the old industry you might be thinking of. There are new technologies, techniques and teamwork you don't find in any other industry.

Millions of journeyman craft workers are secure in their jobs and making high wages because they have valuable skills that are needed every day in the construction industry because they have attended an apprenticeship school and they have a journeyman card to prove it.

The Arizona Builders Alliance sponsors the largest Electrical Apprenticeship Program in the state of Arizona. With over 450 active students and 25 instructors, it keeps ABA & Gateway busy preparing curriculum, instructors & finding classroom space.

Each year in January the ABA sponsors the Electrical Craft Championships. It begins with a written test for all fourth year apprentices. This test is comprehensive and covers all four years of their schooling and on the job training. We take the top ten scores on the written test and bring them together at our Gateway Lab for the hands on portion of the competition and they compete for the top spot in the State Of Arizona. All ten competitors get the day off with pay to be in the hands-on competition and all ten receive a \$50 Home Depot gift card, all of their meals, an ABA work shirt and an ABA dress shirt for the banquet that night where we announce the winner of the state competition. The winner received an all-expense paid trip to the National Competition, which was in Hawaii this year.

This years winner is Joe Warren from Jen Service Electric, so he and his wife headed for Honolulu February 24 through March 1, 2009 where he did very well by placing in the top third of the nation-wide competitors.

Anyone interested in the ABA Electrical Apprenticeship Program can contact us at:

Arizona Builders' Alliance
1825 West Adams
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Phone: 602-274-8222
Fax: 602-274-8999
www.azbuilders.org