



Early Middle College Apprenticeships

An Early Middle College (EMC) Youth Registered Apprenticeship (YRA) combines on-the-job training (provided by an employer in a business, industry, or related organization considered essential to the economy of a local area, region, or state) with job-related academic instruction in occupational/technical skills for a specific pathway.



As paid employees at a work site, students have time to focus on specialized tasks and gain skills within a specific occupation. Students are directly mentored by an expert in their field. The 45-hour job specific rule does not apply.

The minimum age for a YRA is 16.

	Time with Instructor	Time in a CTE Classroom	Maximum Time at Apprenticeship Employer
Weekly Requirement	40 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 15 hours 50% of FTE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 hours weekly Maximum of 6 consecutive days in a 7-day period
Yearly Requirement	1,440 minutes	144 hours	2,080 hours

Fun Facts about Apprenticeship Programs:

- There are more than 1,300 apprentice trades.
- “Earn while you learn today” requires apprentices to receive fifty percent of the prevailing wage and receive incremental salary increases as they progress through the YRA.
- Students participating in a state-approved EMC Career Technical Education (CTE) program and/or the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) YRA program receive a hazardous occupations exemption waiver for specific areas and tasks.
- The hours a student earns participating in a USDOL YRA count toward the students’ journey person card.



Requirements to Open an EMC Apprenticeship program:

- Apprenticeship must be registered with the USDOL.
- Students are required by the USDOL to have a placement at the end of their apprenticeship.
- The apprenticeship employer is required to have a qualified individual to train with for a specific training credential.

Frequently Asked Questions and Resources

- **How do I start a new apprenticeship program?**
Contact your local [Michigan Works! Apprenticeship Success Coordinator](#) to **assist your school** with developing an apprenticeship program.
- **What are the roles and responsibilities of teachers, business and industry and apprentices?** Refer to the MDE-OCTE [Work-Based Learning Manual](#) (Pages 31-33), which outlines roles and responsibilities, documentation required and a best practice.



For more information visit the [Early Middle College](#) webpage or contact Dr. Stacey Stover, MDE, Office of Career and Technical Education, StoverS@Michigan.gov.



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