

CONSTRUCTION**NOC 7271**

GENERAL CARPENTER
(T.Q.A.A., voluntary certified trade)

**WORK DESCRIPTION**

What would I be doing?

General Carpenters may work in “roughing” or “finishing” aspect of erecting new buildings or renovating existing structures.

In their work carpenters:

- use hand and power tools,
- erect foundations, steel, and wood framing,
- build stairs, doorways, counters, window frames, cupboards,
- install doors and windows and all the hardware,
- use scaffolding, ladders, ropes
- install floors, suspended ceilings, and skylights.

In general, carpenters work days. They may work overtime to finish a project. The work involves a lot of lifting and physical strength. Carpenters must pay close attention to safety because the work presents many hazards. Carpenters work both indoors and outdoors.

PLACE OF WORK

Who needs carpenters?

- developers on construction sites,
- cabinet making shops,
- maintenance departments for large businesses and industry,
- School boards, colleges, and universities

- self-employed,
- construction companies.

CONDITIONS OF WORK

A General Carpenter Trade is a voluntary certified trade.

A person may or may not have a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered as an apprentice to work in the trade but apprenticeship is strongly recommended. Under TQAA, for **voluntary** trades, the Cooperative Education student does not have to be a registered apprentice and therefore does not have to be paid during school hours. **Students who become registered apprentices may be paid** according to the Regulations.

SALARIES/WAGES

The salary of General Carpenters depends on the employer. In unionized places the wages and conditions of work are negotiated collectively. The rate of wages for an apprentice is a specified percentage of a journeyperson’s wage according to experience and level of training.

In the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area, General Carpenters can earn \$ 12.06 - \$ 17.97 per hour, averaging \$ 16.46 per hour.

(Next)

PROSPECTS of EMPLOYMENT in the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area

RATING: good

The trade is experiencing a shortage as the skilled workforce ages.

APPRENTICESHIP IN THE CARPENTER TRADE

- takes about 4 years or 7 200h, (including 720 h of in-school training), prior education and experience may shorten the time to complete all the competencies,
- must pass the Provincial Qualifying exam to receive both a Certificate of Apprenticeship and a Certificate of Qualification with journeyman status,
- offers an Interprovincial Trade Certification (Red Seal).

In-School Education:

An OYAP student must be 16 years old and have completed Grade 10 (or equivalent).

Otherwise, Grade 10 is the minimum requirement, however, completion of Grade 12 (OSSD) is advantageous. The following competencies are valuable:

English, *Communication and*
Mathematics, *planning skills,*
Physics, *ability to work*
Design Technology *unsupervised,*
(Drafting), *problem-solving skills*
Construction Technology
(Woodworking).

OYAP students must be full-time students in high school and those who obtain apprenticeships will complete the apprenticeship curriculum in college or an approved Training Delivery Agent.

Specific skills learned in school are: safety, woodworking, trade calculations, blueprint reading, architectural drawings, estimating, cutting, materials and hand

tools, construction layouts, welding, acoustic ceilings

On the Job Training

- As a high school Cooperative Education credit (towards O.S.S.D.), learning is connected to one of the school subjects.
- The apprentices must follow a program in the **Apprenticeship Training Standards** book which is given to them in the workplace when they register. As each competency is achieved the employer signs it off.

OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

A Certificate as a journeyman is not needed to start working as a General Carpenter but a registration as an apprentice is recommended. After becoming a journeyman a carpenter may:

- become a foreman or a supervisor
- start own business
- work in related areas or occupations

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Cabinetmaker
- Drywall Installer and Finisher
- Roofer and Shingler
- Floor Covering Installer

CONTACT INFORMATION

Whom should I call?

School Guidance/Co-Op Office

Apprenticeship Office 519 675 7788

London: 1 800 265 1050

Apprenticeship web: www.edu.gov.on.ca

EMOLTB web site: www.localboard.on.ca

Training Hotline: 1 800 387 5656

Union: United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America Local 1946

519 652 2992