



Apprenticeship:

It Makes Good Business Sense

Between 1991 and 2001, the number of people working in skilled trade occupations dropped by 3.8 percent. This decrease creates a significant impact on your ability to find skilled employees. Ensuring the availability of a strong labor force now, and in the future, is important for the sustainable growth of your business.

You require skilled and qualified workers to get the job done. Training apprentices is the best way to ensure that your employees are trained the way you want them to be, allowing you to pass on your—and your journeypersons'—knowledge and experience.

The N.C. Department of Labor Apprenticeship and Training Bureau is pleased to provide you with this *Employer Toolkit*. It is designed to provide you with everything you need to know about apprenticeship—what it is, why it benefits your business, how it affects your bottom line, and how it works.

Tools and resources are readily available to get your company started on an apprenticeship program. This toolkit is meant to answer some of the most common questions about apprenticeship and includes the following information:

- Benefits of training apprentices
- How apprenticeship can improve your bottom line
- Tips to implementing a successful apprenticeship
- Valuable information on effective mentoring techniques
- Simple steps to starting a successful apprenticeship program in your business
- Quotes from apprenticeship sponsors who are making apprenticeship work for them
- Who to contact to obtain more information