



International Union of Elevator Constructors Local 55

Trade: Elevator Constructors & Mechanics

Description of Trade: Elevator Constructors or Elevator Mechanics assemble, install, and replace elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, moving walkways, and similar equipment in new and old buildings. Once the equipment is in service, they maintain and repair it. They are also responsible for modernizing older equipment. In order to install, repair, and maintain modern elevators, which are almost all electronically controlled, elevator constructors must have a thorough knowledge of electronics, electricity, and hydraulics. Many elevators today are installed with microprocessors, which are programmed to constantly analyze traffic conditions in order to dispatch elevators in the most efficient manner. With these computer controls, it is now possible to get the greatest amount of service with the least number of cars.

Contact Info: Rod Gilles, 400 NE Jefferson Suite 201, Peoria, IL, 61603; **Phone:** (309) 671-5085

General Requirements: Must be at least 18 years old; must have a high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate; and must pass an aptitude test. Must be able to lift and carry heavy equipment and parts. Must be able to work in small cramped spaces.

Application Process: Applications are taken online through the National Elevator Industry Education Program on an as-needed basis. Contact the Local for more information.

Apprentice Training: The apprenticeship program runs four to five years. Generally, apprenticeships must complete a six-month probationary period. After completion, they work toward becoming fully qualified mechanics within four to five years. To be classified as a fully qualified mechanic, apprentices must pass a standard mechanics examination administered by the National Elevator Industry Educational Program.

Wages: Apprentices start at a percentage of the base wage. The base wage is \$44.78 per hour plus health insurance and pension plan.