



Four Tribes Low-Voltage Electrician Pre-Apprenticeship Program: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1. Who should apply to the program?

Enrolled Tribal members, descendants, or individuals in households with Tribal members in northern California – including those from the Blue Lake Rancheria and Hoopa Valley, Karuk, and Yurok Tribes – will be given preference in the application review process and are strongly encouraged to apply. Participants based in northern California are preferred (includes but not limited to the counties of Humboldt, Del Norte, Siskiyou, Trinity, Mendocino, Lake, and Sonoma).

The program also invites those who work (or are interested in working) for these and other Tribal Nations in northern California as well as young adults ages 18-25, racial and ethnic minorities, women, disadvantaged young adults, veterans, formerly incarcerated individuals, and disadvantaged and disconnected job seekers to apply.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older at the time of the in-person session, dated below. There is no age limit and adults transitioning out of a career are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be able to work legally in the U.S. and be able to attend all class sessions, including the in-person sessions.

In addition to the above criteria, strong applications include those that show genuine interest, motivation, and who are both honest and specific with their needs, as well as individuals that would hugely benefit from an early / transitioning career pathway program.

2. When will the 2026 cohorts be held?

Schedule	START DATE	END DATE	In-person Weekend Session
SUMMER Cohort	July 2, 2026	August 6, 2026	July 17-19, 2026 (Blue Lake, CA)
FALL Cohort	September 3, 2026	October 8, 2026	September 18-20, 2026 (Blue Lake, CA)

Virtual sessions: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00 to 7:00 PT (with a later ending time for a few sessions. See full schedules [here](#)).

In-person weekend: Will be held at Blue Lake Rancheria in Blue Lake, CA

OSHA-10 training: Mandatory online safety course that participants can start upon program acceptance (30-days prior to in-person training)

Both cohorts will cover the same content.

3. What does the 2026 application process consist of?

There is a single application process for acceptance into the Summer or Fall 2026 cohorts found [here](#). The **application deadline is May 29, 2026 at 11:59pm PT**. Applicants will indicate their availability for the two cohorts in their applications and identify which cohort (Summer or Fall –

see above) they prefer to attend should they be available for both. We will do our best to place accepted applicants in their preferred program; however, there is no guarantee. Applicants will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Applicants will be notified in early June via email, and successful applicants must confirm their acceptance into the specific cohort for which they were accepted by June 12 at 5pm PT.

4. Do I need pre-existing experience in the electrical field to apply?

No. Applicants do not need to have any prior training/background in the trades, however a strong commitment to pursuing a career working in the electrical field is preferred.

5. How many are accepted into the program?

This highly competitive program is limited to 25 participants for each of the two cohorts (50 participants total). We expect to receive more than 100 applications for 2026.

6. If accepted, do I need to attend every program session?

Yes. Attendance at all virtual sessions and the three-day in-person instructional weekend in Blue Lake, CA is mandatory, and accepted applicants must confirm their ability to attend all sessions as a condition of their entry into the program. Accepted applicants will also sign an acknowledgement that failure to complete the program will make them ineligible for the full participation stipend.

7. Can I bring family to the in-person instructional weekend if needed?

Yes, with prior approval. Participants traveling to Blue Lake, CA and lodging at the Blue Lake Casino Hotel are allowed to bring family members to stay in the participants' hotel room. However, child-care is not provided and meals for family members are not provided unless otherwise agreed upon with program coordinators.

Any additional charges to a participants stay due to family members being in the hotel room (example: an extra cot) can be at the expense of the participants travel reimbursement allocation unless otherwise agreed upon with program coordinators.

Program coordinators will share available family-friendly activities in the Blue Lake area during the in-person instructional weekend.

8. Do I need to submit to a background check to participate in the program?

No. However, participants who subsequently apply for full apprenticeship programs, other advanced trainings, or employment in the electrical field can expect to be required to pass a background check.

9. Do I need to submit to a drug test to participate in the program?

No. However, participants who subsequently apply for full apprenticeship programs, other advanced trainings, or employment in the electrical field can expect to be required to submit to drug testing.

10. Can I edit my application after submission?

Yes, as of May 22, you can edit your application after submission linked [here](#). Edits to applications can be done up to the deadline on May, 31 at 11:59pm. Program coordinators will be automatically notified when applications were edited and re-submitted. If you need to edit your application and cannot access it using the application link, please email: epap@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov

11. Is there already applicants from last year approved for this years' cohorts?

No. Applicants who were not accepted last year were notified via email about the open application, however, they must resubmit a new application as this years' cohorts have two different dates to choose from. Selection of pre-apprentices will be based on the criteria in question 1 above. Prior applications are not considered.

12. Is this program only open to members of California Tribes? Can participants from Tribes outside of California, such as southern Oregon, be eligible to enroll?

Applicants which are members, descendants, or are part of households with Tribal members enrolled in northern California Tribal Nations are given preference. Additionally, these individuals based in northern California are given preference. Participants from Tribes outside of California, such as southern Oregon can apply, however, certain virtual sessions cover support services and opportunities that are based in Tribal Nations or other organizations in northern California. Additionally, if applicants meet the preferences and eligibility criteria outlined in question 1 above, we will also consider the time of the application submission and the individual's interest in the program (i.e. if based in southern Oregon, how will you apply what you learn to advance your career and/or, do you have interest in working with a Tribal Nation?). Applicants are encouraged to apply early, as applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

For additional questions not featured above, please email the pre-apprenticeship program coordinators at: epap@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov.