

## PRE-APPRENTICESHIP FOR LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICIANS PROGRAM 2026

Virtual and In-Person at Blue Lake Rancheria  
Summer Session: July 2 – August 6, 2026  
Fall Session: September 3 – October 8, 2026

**Purpose:** to build technical and soft skills with opportunities for hands-on training to prepare Tribal members in Northern California to enter and succeed in a full apprenticeship or other advanced training programs in the electric field. Program is co-designed by Blue Lake Rancheria, Hoopa Valley, Karuk, and Yurok Tribes.

**Contact:** The Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship Program coordinators, [epap@bluelakerancheria-nnsn.gov](mailto:epap@bluelakerancheria-nnsn.gov) or (707) 668-5101

**Requirements:** No prior experience is required. It is required that pre-apprentices

- Attend all virtual and in-person class sessions (please be on time),
- Must be interested in a career as an electrician,
- Must complete an end of program survey and interview,
- Must complete OSHA 10 training module and provide program administrators a copy of the certificate, and
- Must be prepared for each class session, including having the ability to access program materials and virtual zoom sessions. No laptops or computers are provided.

**Required Homework, Due July 17 (Summer) or September 19 (Fall):** Pre-apprentices must complete an OSHA 10-Hour Construction Course online and provide program administrators a copy of the certificate. Only those who submit a copy of an existing OSHA 10 or 30 certification can opt-out of this requirement. A link to register for free for the course will be sent via email to participants one month prior to due date.

Do not wait to start this homework until the last minute. Expect to spend a MINIMUM of 10 hours to complete this homework on your own. There are additional homework assignments, found in the schedule below, which are for your own practice and not turned in.

**How to Access Program Resources & Zoom:** Participants will access course materials online and through email. Participants will be sent a zoom link and calendar invitation for all class sessions.

**In-Person Extended Weekend Participation:** Participants should be prepared to attend all in-person sessions scheduled below in Blue Lake, CA. Special accommodations should be requested ahead of time. Participants who are traveling from locations outside of the Eureka, Arcata, and McKinleyville areas should indicate in their form for program coordinators to book their hotel accommodations for them. All others will be asked to commute to Blue Lake, as there are limited hotel rooms for the summer/fall season. Meals and breaks are included unless otherwise noted. More information is provided about travel and accommodations upon program acceptance.

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Program Schedule (subject to change):

| Schedule             | Summer Session Date / Time (PDT)         | Fall Session Date / Time (PDT)           | Learning Module(s)  | Hours | In-Person / Virtual | Instructor(s) / Guest Speaker(s)   | Description  |
|----------------------|--|--|---|-------|---------------------|--|--|
| Orientation, Class 1 | <b>Thursday<br/>July 2,<br/>5-7pm</b>    | <b>Thursday,<br/>Sept 3,<br/>5-7pm</b>   | <b>Program Orientation</b>  | 2     | Virtual             | Blue Lake Rancheria, Hoopa Valley Public Utilities District                  | Teacher/Participant introductions, overview of program and expectations, and cohort-building activity. Includes brief overview of pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships in the electrical field as well as overview of different careers, such as in low-voltage work.                                 |
| Week 1, Class 2      | <b>Tuesday<br/>July 7,<br/>5-7pm</b>     | <b>Thursday<br/>Sept 8,<br/>5-7pm</b>    | <b>Introduction to Construction Math Part 1: Whole Numbers, Fractions, Decimals</b>   | 2     | Virtual             | Meskwaki Apprenticeship Lead Electrical Instructor                           | Conceptual understanding of mathematics and developing efficiency in problem solving with whole numbers and fractions, including lowest common denominators, improper fractions, adding/subtracting fractions, and multiplying/dividing fractions.<br>For practice only, homework #1 is assigned.        |
| Week 1, Class 3      | <b>Thursday<br/>July 9,<br/>5-7pm</b>    | <b>Thursday<br/>Sept 10,<br/>5-7pm</b>   | <b>Introduction to Construction Math Part 2: Decimals, Length, Weight, Volume, Geometry</b>                                   | 2     | Virtual             | Meskwaki Apprenticeship Lead Electrical Instructor                           | Conceptual understanding of mathematics and developing efficiency in measuring length and metric/inch-pound measurement systems. Provides introduction to geometry, angles/shapes, calculating the area of shapes and volume of three-dimensional shapes.<br>For practice only, homework #2 is assigned. |
| Week 2, Class 4      | <b>Tuesday,<br/>July 14<br/>5-7:30pm</b> | <b>Tuesday<br/>Sept 15,<br/>5-7:30pm</b> | <b>Introduction to Construction Math Part 3: Geometry and Review</b><br><br><b>Introduction to Electrical Work and Unions</b> | 2     | Virtual             | Meskwaki Apprenticeship Lead Electrical Instructor<br><br>Guest Speaker: TBA | Review conceptual understanding of mathematics and developing efficiency in problem solving using practice study problems.<br>For practice only, homework #3 is assigned.<br><br>Provides overview of local union apprenticeship program and experience of being a union electrician.                    |

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| Week 2, No Class                  | Thursday, July 16                | Thursday, Sept 17              | Travel Day (if needed). <b>No Virtual or In-Person Class</b>          |       |                     |                                    | Travel day for pre-apprentices participating in CPR training and/or with approved travel; stay at Blue Lake Hotel. Meals on your own.  |
| Extended Weekend Session          | Friday July 17                   | Friday Sept 18                 | <b>OSHA 10 Required Course is Due</b> (self-paced online)             | 10    | Virtual             | N/A                                | Provides entry-level workers the essential knowledge to recognize, avoid, and report the safety and health risks found on every job site. Participants must email digital copy of certificate upon completion. |
| Extended Weekend Session          | Friday July 17, 9am-12pm         | Friday Sept 18, 9am-12pm       | <b>CPR Training</b> (for those without active CPR certification only) | 3     | In-Person           | Blue Lake Rancheria CPR Instructor | Covers CPR certification and basic first aid for adults, infants, and children. This course meets all OSHA requirements.   |
| Extended Weekend Session, Class 5 | Friday, July 17, 1:30-5pm        | Friday Sept 18, 1:30-5pm       | <b>Introduction to Electrical &amp; Construction Drawings</b>         | 3     | In-Person           | TBA                                | Interpreting electrical drawings, including the use of architect's and engineer's scales.  |
| Extended Weekend Session          | Friday, July 17, 5:30-7pm        | Friday Sept 18, 5:30-7pm       | <b>Networking Dinner and Career Fair</b>                              | 1.5   | In-Person           | TBA                                | Hosted networking event with area partners, employers, "next-step" training programs, invited guests, Tribal staff, and pre-apprentices.   |

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| Extended Weekend Session, Class 6 | Saturday July 18, 9am-3pm        | Saturday Sept 19, 9am-3pm      | Introduction to Hand/Power Tools    | 6     | In-Person, at Claudia Brundin Health Center, Blue Lake | TBA<br>Fall Only: Derek Glavich (College of the Redwoods Construction Tech Professor) | Usage and maintenance of a broad collection of hand tools used in the construction trades. Build wall on site with small groups. Start learning about wiring and lighting.              |
| Extended Weekend Session          | Saturday July 18, 3:30-4:30pm    | Saturday Sept 19, 3:30-4:30pm  | Tour of BLR Microgrid               | 1     | In-Person  | Blue Lake Rancheria   | Observe what typical job site environment looks like and tour solar microgrid technology.   |
| Extended Weekend Session          | Saturday July 18, 5:30-6:45pm    | Saturday Sept 19, 5:30-6:45pm  | Hosted dinner with keynote speaker  | N/A   | In-Person  | TBA   | Pre-apprenticeship cohort dinner with keynote speaker on electrical apprenticeships and careers for Tribal members.   |
| Extended Weekend Session, Class 7 | Sunday July 19, 8:30am-12pm      | Sunday Sept 20, 8:30am-12pm    | Introduction to Electrical Circuits | 3.5   | In-Person  | TBA   | Basic atomic and electrical theory and electrical units of measurement. Install switches and circuits in wall on site with small groups.  |
| Extended Weekend Session          | Sunday July 19, 1-3:30pm         | Sunday Sept 20, 1-3:30pm       | Hands-on Demonstration              | 2.5   | In-Person  | TBA   | Continue installations in wall on site and additional electrical hands-on activity in solar, lighting, low-voltage, or other potential electrical topic, depending on cohort interests. |

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| Week 3, Class 8  | <b>Tuesday July 21, 5-7:30pm</b> | <b>Tuesday Sept 22, 5-7:30pm</b> | <b>Understanding How to Work with and for Tribal Nations</b>                                 | 2.5   | Virtual             | TBA<br><br>Ian Record (Formerly National Congress of American Indians)<br><br>Melvin Wheeler and Laatis Lawrence (Nez Perce TERO)<br><br>Heidi Moore-Guynup (Blue Lake Rancheria) | Develop proficient understanding of Tribal Sovereignty, special considerations when working within Tribal communities, and learn local career opportunities working as a low-voltage electrician on Tribal lands. Provides overview of functions of Tribal Employment Rights Offices.   |
| Week 3, Class 9  | <b>Thursday July 23, 5-7pm</b>   | <b>Thursday Sept 24, 5-7pm</b>   | <b>Achieving Readiness to Thrive in the Workplace Part 1: Soft Skills and Resumes</b>        | 2     | Virtual             | Heidi Moore-Guynup and Ysabelle Yrad (Blue Lake Rancheria)  | Equips participants with key skills, knowledge, and behaviors that are necessary to successfully transition into and thrive within the workforce. Includes identifying “soft skills” and personal obstacles to workplace readiness as well as resume and job interview review. For practice only, homework #4 is assigned.  |
| Week 4, Class 10 | <b>Tuesday July 28, 5-7pm</b>    | <b>Thursday Sept 29, 5-7pm</b>   | <b>Achieving Readiness to Thrive in the Workplace Part 2: Workforce Training and Support</b> | 2     | Virtual             | TBA<br><br>Margaret Zientek (Citizen Potawatomi Nation)<br><br>Kay Seven (Nez Perce Tribe)<br><br>Penny Cordova (Hoopa Valley TERO)<br><br>Michelle Cooke (Karuk TERO)            | Equips participants with key skills, knowledge, and behaviors that are necessary to successfully transition into and thrive within the workforce. Includes accessing Tribal and local services to support you in removing those obstacles, finding and keeping a healthy work-life balance, and building healthy relationships with your supervisor/employer. For practice only, homework #5 is assigned. |

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| Week 4, Class 11           | Thursday July 30, 5-7pm              | Thursday Oct 1, 5-7pm                | Building a Rewarding Career in the Electrician Field Part 1 | 2     | Virtual             | TBA                              | Review the local and regional apprenticeship and full-time employment landscape for growing opportunities in the electrical trade.  |
| Week 5, Class 12           | Tuesday Aug 4, 5-7pm                 | Tuesday Oct 6 5-7pm                  | Building a Rewarding Career in the Electrician Field Part 2 | 2     | Virtual             | TBA                              | Review the local and regional apprenticeship and full-time employment landscape for growing opportunities in the electrical trade. Includes understanding an employer's policies, procedures, and compensation packages.  |
| Week 5, Virtual Graduation | Thursday Aug 6, 5-7pm                | Thursday Oct 8, 5-7pm                | Roundtable with Role Models<br>Virtual Graduation Ceremony  | 2     | Virtual             | TBA                              | Small groups (break out rooms) conversation with choice of role models in electrical careers or training programs, such as residential, commercial, solar, apprenticeship, linemen, or electrical trainee programs or other. Includes key note speaker and virtual graduation ceremony. |
| 1-on-1 Exit Interviews     | Schedule on your own during Aug 7-14 | Schedule on your own during Oct 9-16 | Exit Interview and Survey                                   | 0.5-1 | Virtual             | Blue Lake Rancheria              | Discuss next steps and support with coordinators. Complete required exit survey.  |