Geothermal Driller Pre-Apprentice Program: Overview

Why Become a Geothermal Driller?
➔ Earn family-sustaining wages
➔ Build a career: being a ground-source geothermal driller is not just a job, it's a pathway
➔ Be part of a team pioneering the thermal utility of the future
➔ Make a difference: protect your community & contribute to the global climate movement.

Requirements to Become a Driller
➔ Being brave, bold, and brilliant: 15,000 U.S. drillers = drilling is not for the faint at heart
➔ Working outdoors: variables range from temperature extremes to annoying insects
➔ Attention to complexity and risks: drill rigs are complex and include high-risk situations
➔ Responsibility: drillers control the tempo of the job, reducing opportunities for risk.

The Pre-Apprentice Training Program
Gain *prerequisite* knowledge to be a competent driller - the first step to pursuing apprenticeship.

Overview:
➔ Intensive training from Basic to Advanced Geothermal Borehole Completion
➔ Dates: August/September 2024 (exact dates coming soon)
➔ Location: (coming soon)
➔ 80 hours / 2 weeks
➔ Placement into a paid 2-year apprenticeship upon completion
➔ Contact workforce@heet.org with questions or for support (e.g. transportation, translation)

Curriculum:
Our pre-apprentice training program is designed efficiently for the 21st-century driller, and blends classroom time and hands-on drilling labs:

➔ Introduction to the science behind geothermal boreholes and loop fields
➔ The roles, requirements, and fundamentals of drilling boreholes (depths up to 1500 feet)
➔ Drilling disciplines and how they react to different subsurface conditions (critical thinking and overcoming tough drilling conditions)
➔ The lifecycle of the drilling process, from a single borehole to an entire borefield
➔ Opportunity to operate a drill rig in the field from the first day of training
➔ By the end of training, you will have discussed workplace protocol and safety, and drilled multiple geothermal boreholes to completion
➔ Next step: become a driller apprentice – you will be challenged mentally and physically.

Start your journey to become a competent driller: support yourself, positively impact your community, and help deliver clean, safe and affordable heating and cooling to your neighbors.

To register your interest or learn more: workforce@heet.org -or- scan:
Is Geothermal Drilling for You?

★ Do you like working outside?
★ Do you have an aptitude for working with mechanical equipment and processes?
★ Do you enjoy science? You will discover subsurface geologies that have never been touched.
★ Does it appeal that your office scenery may change from a neighborhood one week to a remote nature preserve the next week?
★ Do you have a natural affinity for taking control? Can you turn a remote control into an extension of yourself, whether for a remote-controlled car, drone, or even a character in a video game? This skill is crucial for operating the drilling equipment.
★ Can you problem-solve a situation with your imagination? You will create a three-dimensional picture of subsurface conditions 500 ft below your feet in your mind and critically assess troubling conditions.
★ Do you have the confidence to trust your gut instinct, for example, to make microsecond adjustments while in control of a drill?
★ Are you excited by the opportunity of not knowing how today's task will be completed?
★ Are you an early adopter? Does working with cutting-edge drilling equipment and technology appeal to you? You may be the first to push the limits of a new borefield.

The Challenge & Opportunity: Geothermal Drilling

Climate change and extreme weather (significant flooding, fires and hurricanes) are caused by our use of fossil fuels (natural gas, oil, etc.)

➔ Burning fossil fuels produces more gasses than our environment can process
➔ Restoring communities after significant weather events costs millions of dollars
➔ Your communities and the planet need our help.

Drilling professionals have endless opportunity to harness the earth’s resources

➔ What is Geothermal? [Check out this 2 minute video](#)
➔ The constant temperature 500 feet beneath our feet is 55 degrees, a natural and no-cost source of heating and cooling for buildings
➔ The number one bottleneck to more geothermal deployment is a lack of drillers
➔ Great opportunity for career growth and impact; fewer than 15,000 drillers in the U.S.

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