February 01, 2026

NW LINE JATC

Power Line Clearance and Tree Trimming Apprenticeship



About the Industry and Apprenticeship

Powerline clearance tree trimming is the maintenance of power line right of ways. It includes a variety of tree maintenance operations such as tree pruning, tree removal, and brush clearing, which is done to prevent interruption of electrical services to customers. This work is done in the vicinity of high voltage and energized power lines, meaning individuals working in this trade must remain alert and aware of these extreme hazards. This work can be strenuous as it is performed at heights ranging from 20 to 100 feet.

Other functions of power line clearance tree trimmers include cleanup operations during and after storms and other natural disasters. On the job, trimmers will use hand tools, powered tools, heavy equipment, and bucket trucks for various tasks. Having mastery of ropes and rigging is also vital to the trade. You will work exclusively outdoors, often in inclement weather, and will be expected to display physical agility and coordination. Workers should be dependable, cooperative, and have a well-controlled temperament.

Apprenticeship is a training strategy that combines supervised, structured on the job training with related classroom instruction. It is an earn while you learn system, where you will be assigned a full-time job earning wages; you will also be attending schooling. Our program typically takes about two years to complete and consists of a minimum of 4000 hours of on-the-job training and 288 hours of related supplemental instruction.

Wages and Benefits

The current average wage for Journeymen Tree Trimmers in the Pacific Northwest is **$43.02** per hour with benefits. Apprentices will make a percentage of this wage, progressing in wage as they progress in the apprenticeship. Apprentices and immediate family are provided full medical, dental, and vision, along with a defined pension plan and annuity plan!

APPLY FOR APPRENTICESHIP!

CURRENT JOURNEYMEN TREE TRIMMERS MAKE $43.02 PER HOUR ON AVERAGE

GAIN SKILLS AND JOIN A GROWING INDUSTRY

GET BENEFITS AND A PENSION

NWLINEJATC.COM
CALL: 360-816-7100

Application Process

Get started today by visiting our website NWLINEJATC.COM and creating an account. We accept applications year-round! It is free to apply for this program. To be eligible for an apprenticeship you must complete our online application and meet all the requirements.

Application Requirements & Documentation for a Complete Application:

- High School Diploma/Transcripts or GED/HSED.
- Valid Driver's License (Proof of 18 years or older).
- Current First Aid/CPR certification. Online cards are not accepted.
- Traffic Control Flagging Card (Issued in OR, WA, ID, or MT). Online cards are not accepted.

Items Strongly Recommended (Not Required):

- Commercial Driver's License (CDL) or CDL Permit. A CLP will be required 90 days after the apprenticeship start date and a CDL will be required at the 3,000-hour mark within the program.
- Industry related certifications - Pesticide, ISA certification, Forestry Degree, Red Card, etc.

Once Your Application is Complete

After the completion of your application, you will be added to the Rank List (Work List). This list is re-ranked on the first Tuesday of the month. This program covers all of Washington, Oregon, 10 counties in Idaho, and 3 counties in California. You may choose where you would like to work by selecting any of our 11 Rank List areas.

Applicants are scored based on points received on their application. These points can be obtained by providing additional documentation on the application. Point values and additional items can be viewed on our website. We suggest reviewing these, having more points will help you get hired faster!

Entry into Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship positions are offered based on industry demand. Our partnered training agents (Contractors) will contact the office when in need of a new apprentice for their crew. If all current apprentices are working, we will contact the first person ranked on the Rank List and offer them an apprenticeship position. Each year is different, which can impact the number of applicants offered an apprenticeship.



Please use the QR Code for quick access to our website!

Apply Today!

