

Mississippi Associated Builders and Contractors

Presentation to Students

I. Introductions

A. Speaker

- Name, Company, and some Background

B. MABC

- The largest merit based construction association chapter in the US.
- MABC has over 1200 member companies that employ over 66,000 people. We are a statewide association with offices in Jackson and Gulfport.
- MABC is made up of general contractors, specialty contractors, suppliers, accounting and bonding. Our members range from billion dollar companies to small specialty contractors. (Construction has a far reaching impact)
- MABC is committed to craft education and offers classes year-round, through the Mississippi Construction Education Foundation to help you reach journey worker status.
- Most ABC members are willing to offer to help pay the cost of craft education for their employees.

C. Mississippi Construction Education Foundation (MCEF)

- MCEF is a non-profit foundation that was created by the Construction Industry in Mississippi to provide construction training opportunities throughout the state.
- MCEF currently has over 200 Apprentices in training and since 2000 they have prepared more than 150 apprentices for journey worker status.
- MCEF works closely with vo-tech centers and provides nationally recognized credentialing for students in construction based course.

II. Have you considered a career? What are your options? I'm here to talk about a career in construction.

A. General Industry Information

- Construction is one of the fastest growing industry sectors in the economy (10% of GNP)
- Nationwide, nearly 8 million people are employed in construction.
- Job Security – Construction jobs cannot be exported and some form of construction is going on whether the economy is good or bad
- Portability – Construction skills can gain you employment anywhere in the US

B. What is Commercial Construction?

- We are the companies that build hospitals, schools, shopping centers, office buildings, etc.
- We offer steady full time employment with benefits such health insurance and retirement programs
- Pay levels exceed residential construction and there are many opportunities for career advancement.

III. Opportunities for Advancement and Potential Earning

- Advancement in a construction career is unlimited and not dependent on education.
- Easy way to start your own business – 1) Pick-up truck. 2) Tools 3) A will to do it
- Construction has a well defined career path. (Discuss the career path in the Try Tools Brochure)
- Construction offers competitive pay (Discuss the career ladder in the Try Tools Brochure)

IV. Start your career in construction NOW!

- Sign-up for a construction Vo-tech class.

IV. Personal Success Story & Open Discussion

- Tell a Personal Success Story
- Address Student Questions
- If the students don't have any questions ask some to start a discussion.

Some Questions you may want to ask:

Do you know someone that works in construction? Who and what do they do? How many of you plan to go to college? What are you going to study? If you are not going to college what are you going to do after high school? What are your impressions of construction? Did you learn anything new from my visit today? Are you interested in more information? If so what kind of information?