WHAT ARE YOU UP FOR?

MY LIFE AS

AN APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN: GREG MORALES

Greg Morales has been at TRIO Electric for only a few months, and already he’s developed a five-year plan for himself. He’s an apprentice electrician now, working on projects, participating in on-the-job education, and learning from the mentor assigned to him. Down the line, Greg envisions working his way up the ranks to a journeyman and then to a supervisor on multi-million-dollar projects.

In the rapidly expanding construction industry, Greg’s skills, talent, and drive are in high demand. As much as 25 percent of the current construction workforce is expected to retire within 10 years, leaving plenty of management positions open.

Greg has family members in construction, and he said he’s “seen their careers skyrocket to the top. With the opportunities that TRIO provides, your willingness to learn is going to take you places.”

REQUIREMENTS:

Apprenticeship, on-the-job education and training

SALARY:

$44,260, median wage for electricians; apprentice electricians are paid on an escalating scale, which increases as they complete semesters of schooling

CAREER PATH:

Apprentice

ADVANCEMENT:

Leadman, foreman, general foreman—with continued education and licensing, as well as proven leadership skills

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

Demonstrated pride in one’s work, a sense of urgency, and dedication to quality, production, and safety.

KEY CAREER RESPONSIBILITIES:

Projects may range from creating the infrastructure for buildings just going up to remodeling large office spaces. Commercial electricians typically work in crews, with each member performing specific tasks. Crews move from floor to floor performing their duties. Tasks may change, and locations may change, depending on the scope of work. Electricians may install, operate, maintain, and repair power distribution, lighting, and other electrical systems.