



## December 2025 BCP Newsletter

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**Happy Holidays From the Illinois Works Bid Credit Program Team!**

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**Need Help Navigating the IL Works Bid Credit Program??**

**We're Here to Help!**



Join our Technical Assistance open office hours, held **EVERY Thursday from 10am-11am**. No RSVP is required!! Drop in anytime between 10am - 11am for individualized, one-on-one assistance with technological tools or just general questions about IL Works Bid Credit Program. We can even help get you registered with the Bid Credit Program, complete an Apprenticeship Report (to request bid credits), or direct you to Career Services so you can find your next Qualified Apprentice.

**Join the Webex link below:**

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m91f9558125f6f6179e96d9c10a962208>

You can also email us directly at [CEO.BidCreditProgram@illinois.gov](mailto:CEO.BidCreditProgram@illinois.gov). We look forward to hearing from you!

**\*We will not be having Technical Assistance on 12/25/25 or 1/1/26\***

# How Can You Earn Bid Credits?

**FIRST**, in order for you to earn Bid Credits, your employee/apprentice **MUST** be a **Qualified Apprentice**. What exactly is a Qualified Apprentice? A Qualified Apprentice is an employee who meets **ALL** of the following criteria:

- has graduated from an **Illinois Works Pre-apprenticeship Program**
- is actively enrolled in a USDOL-Registered Apprenticeship Program in the construction trades
- is 6 years or less from the date enrolled in the USDOL- Registered Apprenticeship Program

If you have hired a **Qualified Apprentice**, here is an example of how much you **could** earn in a year (Using the highest and lowest paid trades according to IDOL):

Trade Title	Mean Prevailing Wage Effective 9/1/2025	Bid Credit Earnings for 1 Year (2,080 hours)	Bid Credit Earnings for 6 Years (12,480 hours)
Electric Power Lineman	\$64.24	\$66,809.60	\$400,857.60
Painter Over 30 Ft.	\$33.88	\$35,235.20	\$211,411.20

(Bid Credits can be calculated by taking the hours your Qualified Apprentice worked X the mean prevailing wage for the trade worked X \$0.50)

Find out how much your trade can earn!

[Click Here!](#)

## Rincon Family Services – ILWPP Graduate Mary Taylor

Mary Taylor, a graduate of the Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program, completed her training in June 2025 with a focus on construction trades. She successfully earned multiple industry credentials, including OSHA 10, NCCER Core, Flagger, and CPR & First Aid certifications.

Mary's path was not without challenges. As an experienced professional counselor with a master's degree, she initially questioned whether pursuing a physically demanding career in construction at her age was realistic. Yet, the memories of building alongside her father, and

inheriting his tools after his passing, reminded her that construction was more than just a career option, it was her legacy!

Throughout the program, Mary leaned on the support of Rincon Family Services and her instructors from ASCI, including Joseph Garcia, as well as Rincon staff, Ana Laura Rodriguez, and Delanie Orr. They provided guidance through program requirements, encouragement during moments of doubt, and unwavering support that helped Mary stay motivated and focused.



Her dedication and resilience paid off. Mary not only completed the program but is now preparing to begin her career with Labor Union Local 703. With her newly earned certifications and skills, she is equipped to thrive in the field. For Mary, this achievement represents more than a job, it is the continuation of a family tradition. “Construction isn’t just a career -- it’s my calling,” Mary shared. “Every step I take in this field is a way of honoring my father’s legacy and proving that it’s never too late to build the future you dream of.” She plans to build upon the landscaping business she once shared with her father, carrying forward his passion and craftsmanship with her own strength and vision.

## Newsletter Highlight & ILWPP Graduate Success Stories

We love graduate success stories! We also would love a chance to feature your company/organization/graduate in our newsletter!

Do you have an ILWPP graduate/apprentice that you would like to recognize for their remarkable achievement or for overcoming a significant challenge?

If so, please submit the following [form](#) and someone from the BCP team will be in touch with you.

[BCP Newsletter Highlight Form](#)

## November 2025 New Contractors Shoutout!

- Doetsch Contractors Inc
- Parker Construction Enterprises LLC

- Davenport Electric Contract Company
- GTB Saw Cutting LLC
- Fager-McGee Commercial Construction Inc
- Davenport Building Technologies, Inc.
- Knapp Concrete Contractors, Inc.
- Commercial Mechanical, Inc.



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## Bid Credit Launch Q&A

Click on each box for the answer!

How Much Can I Earn?

Is My Apprentice Bid Credit Eligible?

Bid Credit Submission Tips?



## What Do I Need to Know About the Bid Credit Apprenticeship Report?

When completing a BC Apprenticeship Report, there are some important things you should know. Your Qualified Apprentice was assigned an **IWRS Number** during their IL Works Pre-apprenticeship Program training. You will need to provide this number when submitting the online BC Apprenticeship Report form. If your employee does not know their IWRS Number, they should contact their ILW Pre-apprenticeship Program for assistance.

You must also provide the **Project Location** and **Project County** where your employee worked (as indicated on the Certified Payroll) to determine the Region in which bid credits were earned. This is applicable for any Bid Credit Certificates applied to a project bid up through June 30, 2027. [“Prior to July 1, 2027, the bid credit certificate will only include credits earned in the project’s region.”](#)



- Bid Credit Apprentice Reports:
  - must be requested within 90 calendar days of the first day worked on the Certified Payroll
  - can include up to 5 weeks of Certified Payroll per submission for same employee in same county

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## Illinois Works In the News

- [Illinois pre-apprenticeship programs boos tradesworker diversity](#)
- [Illinois pre-apprenticeship programs boost women and minorities in construction, study says](#)
- [Belt Announces Grant Funding For Pre-apprenticeship Programming](#)
- [HIRE360 To Celebrate First Graduating Class Of Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program In Will County](#)



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## Upcoming Bid Credit Program Events

If you have an upcoming meeting or event where you think the BCP Team could outreach the advantages of the program to your organization, email us at [CEO.BidCreditProgram@illinois.gov](mailto:CEO.BidCreditProgram@illinois.gov).

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## Upcoming Bid Credit Program Webinars

### Advantages of the Bid Credit Program Webinar

This **UPDATED** informational webinar will provide updates from the administrative rules that have been approved.

### Effectively Earning Bid Credits Webinar

This **NEW** webinar will provide instructions on how to use our Bid Credit platform and how to earn Bid Credits.

Please check our [website](#) for upcoming dates and times for both webinars! Keep an eye out for another email from us with webinar dates and times, as well as registration links!

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## Timeline to Launch

Are you prepared now that the BCP has launched? Please follow the steps below to ensure your company is ready:

1. [Register](#) for your own BCP Account Number
2. Bookmark the [BCP webpage](#)
3. [Request](#) an ILWPP graduate
4. Review the [Contractor Registry](#) for networking opportunities
5. Begin requesting Bid Credits for a qualified apprentice using the [Bid Credit Apprentice Report](#)



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## Learn more about the Bid Credit Program

[Illinois Works Bid Credit Program](#)

[Illinois Works Graduate Request](#)

[Contractor Registration Form](#)

[Bid Credit Apprentice Report](#)

[Bid Credit Certificate Request](#)



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