

L.A. County Skilled Trades Summers Program



Partner Spotlight

Artesia High School

Artesia | 40 Students | 6 Weeks | Welding and Auto Electrical

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Harbor Freight Tools for Schools launched Skilled Trades Summers in 2021 to introduce high schoolers to in-demand careers and provide foundational skills prior to graduation. In 2026, 11 programs across L.A. County will offer:

- “Earn and learn” model for all participating high school students
- Intensive, hands-on training leading to high-value industry credentials
- Career readiness support

Program Features

- Offers a robust welding and auto electrical program that replicates a real workplace environment.
- Auto students will conduct community vehicle safety checks and welding students will build and install benches in their city.
- Career Readiness and Life Skills: curriculum and resources for job placement, internships and case management provided by Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board.
- Certifications Offered: CPR, First Aid, AED, American Welding Society (AWS), National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certifications.

To see Artesia High School students in-action, watch our video [here](#).

To learn more about Skilled Trades Summers, please contact Senior Director of L.A. County Programs Belen Vargas bvargas@hftforschools.org and visit hftforschools.org/los-angeles-county.

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2022**

About Harbor Freight Tools for Schools

Harbor Freight Tools for Schools is the flagship program of The Smidt Foundation, established by Harbor Freight Tools owner and founder Eric Smidt, to increase understanding, support and investment in skilled trades education for U.S. public high school students.