

L.A. County Skilled Trades Summers Program



Partner Spotlight

Otis College of Design and TGR Foundation

Westchester | 24 Students | 5 Weeks | Woodworking and Metal Fabrication

L.A. County Skilled Trades Summers Program

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

- This new pilot program is a partnership between Otis College of Art & Design and the TGR Foundation, a Tiger Woods charity, where students will learn how skilled trades connect to today's creative economy.
- Students will design, construct, and install outdoor furniture for Lulu's Place, a new youth recreation and community center set to open in 2027.
- Career Readiness and Life Skills: mentorship, workshops, and personalized career support provided by TGR Foundation.
- Certifications Offered: Otis College of Art & Design – Digital Badge in Design-Build Collaboration.

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.

**NEW
PARTNER
IN
2026**

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.