

L.A. County Skilled Trades Summers Program



Partner Spotlight

Port of Los Angeles High School (POLAHS)

San Pedro | 96 Students | 6 Weeks | Construction, Plumbing, Electrical and Welding

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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

- Students participate in advanced skilled trades pathways, earning higher-level certifications, including journeyman level.
- Construction students will complete a community impact project in collaboration with a San Pedro nonprofit organization.
- Certifications Offered: American Welding Society (AWS); National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER).

To see Port of L.A. 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.



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.