

Characteristics of a Good Apprentice (With Room for Growth):

- **Eagerness to Learn:** Apprentices should demonstrate a strong desire to develop new skills and knowledge, particularly in project management.
- **Open-Mindedness:** While they may start with limited experience in project management or technical areas, apprentices should be open to learning and applying new skills in practical situations.
- Interest in the Electrical Field: Even if they have not yet mastered technical skills like NEC navigation or construction drawing interpretation, apprentices should possess a foundational interest in the electrical field.
- **Commitment to Safety:** Apprentices should have an initial appreciation for safety, which will be emphasized and reinforced throughout the program.
- **Problem-Solving Potential:** A readiness to tackle challenges is essential. While formal problem-solving skills will be taught, the willingness to engage in problem-solving early on is key.
- **Communication Development:** Apprentices may not be expert communicators at the start, but they should show a willingness to improve their communication skills over time.
- **Team Player Attitude:** A collaborative mindset is essential, as project success depends on teamwork. Apprentices will have opportunities to reinforce this mindset through leadership training.
- **Basic Organizational Skills:** Although advanced scheduling and budgeting skills will be learned in the program, apprentices should demonstrate basic organizational abilities to handle initial tasks and time commitments.

Apprentices are not expected to start with advanced skills. Instead, they are selected for their potential to grow and develop as they progress through the apprenticeship program.

Characteristics of a Good Manager/Mentor:

- **Extensive Practical Experience:** Mentors should have substantial hands-on experience in electrical contracting to provide apprentices with real-world insights and guidance.
- **Clear Communication:** They must be able to clearly explain tasks, expectations, and feedback, ensuring apprentices understand their responsibilities.
- **Problem-Solving Expertise:** Mentors should excel at identifying and addressing on-site issues, teaching apprentices how to troubleshoot and resolve challenges.
- Lead by Example: A mentor should model a strong work ethic, adherence to safety protocols, and professionalism, setting a standard for apprentices to follow.
- **Time Management and Efficiency:** Effective mentors help apprentices prioritize tasks, manage their time well, and ensure projects stay on schedule and within budget.
- **Patience and Teaching Ability:** While they are not formal educators, mentors should have the patience to guide apprentices through the learning process and help them adjust to the job's demands.
- Accountability and Support: Mentors should hold apprentices accountable for their work while providing the necessary support to help them succeed and progress through the program.



These traits emphasize on-the-job learning and support, focusing on practical guidance rather than formal training expertise, while fostering a productive apprenticeship experience.

QUESTIONS & ASSISTANCE

If you have questions about the program transition, please reach out to Anna Jochim at *Anna.Jochim@ELECTRI.org* or 202-449-9657.