

NEA ESP K-12 Career Families: A Closer Look



SKILLED TRADES K-12 ESP MEMBERS

We maintain and improve the physical quality of school buildings, offices, and facilities, ensuring that they are safe, comfortable, and attractive for students, staff, and the community. NEA skilled trade members perform a wide variety of jobs that require specialized expertise—and often licenses or certifications—in specific vocations. We work behind the scenes to repair, maintain, and operate machinery that is essential to the smooth functioning of the school.

Skilled trades is one of the nine ESP career families. NEA ESPs make up nearly a half million of NEA's 3 million members. As a critical part of the education workforce, NEA skilled trade members meet the needs of the whole student, ensuring students and schools succeed.

FAST FACTS

- 34% work district-wide
- 16% work out of a central maintenance facility
- 25% work in a school building
- 96% work full-time
- 81% male
- Average age is 50
- 2% of the total K-12 NEA ESP membership

We maintain the physical quality of schools

We ensure school safety and comfort

We keep machinery and equipment working

SKILLED TRADE CAREERS:

ELECTRICIANS

CARPENTERS

PAINTERS AND GLAZIERS

HEATING, VENTILATION, AND AIR CONDITIONING
MECHANICS AND SPECIALISTS

MACHINE OPERATORS, ASSEMBLERS, AND INSPECTORS

PRINTING SERVICES PERSONNEL

NON-MANAGERIAL SUPERVISORS

71%
HAVE SPECIAL
CERTIFICATES

87%
STAY IN
FIELD

78%
PROMOTE SCHOOL SAFETY

Committed to students and their career. On average, NEA skilled trade members have been working in the ESP field for 14 years. **87%** currently plan to stay in the ESP field, and **66%** plan to stay in their current position until retirement. **47%** have given money to purchase food or school supplies for students.

Well-trained and experienced. Almost half (**40%**) have a 2-year or higher college degree. **60%** have completed specialized coursework. **71%** have specialized certificates and **69%** have licenses.

Active in the school community. A majority (**60%**) live in the communities where they work. **41%** have supported a parent organization and **32%** have coached or supported a sports team.

Focused on safety. A large majority (**78%**) have responsibilities that involve promoting school safety.