While providing challenging and intentional programming, Chicago Builds’ mission is to provide students pathways to the building trades after high school. Our passion is to inspire students to do incredible things. Chicago Builds serves as a model for specialized trade schools for high school students interested in working in the building trades as a post-secondary career. Chicago Builds is an IL Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program site and offers the Master Builder program in collaboration with City Colleges of Chicago.

Chicago Builds offers students interested in a career in the building trades access to:

- High school credits in a hands-on class (up to 5 credits)
- Technical skills needed to start a career after high school
- Certification support required for a career in construction
- Preparation for union entrance exams
- Integration of Construction Math and Literacy skills in classes
- Dual Credit opportunities
- Access to marketable construction industry disciplines
- Entrepreneurship skill development
- Networking and Resume Writing Supports
- 6 Seasoned industry trained instructors
- 5 Industry specific training suites
- Paid Summer job placement/internships
- Dedicated post-secondary support teams
- Workplace and job shadowing opportunities

How does Chicago Builds Work?

**Year 1** Students participate in four, 10-week rotations between the construction pathways. During each rotation, students will learn from and network with industry experts in the construction field. After the four rotations are completed by year-end, students are encouraged to select one area of concentration (Welding, Electricity, or Carpentry for Second Year Curriculum).

**Year 2:** After students complete the Year 1 rotations at Chicago Builds, students are able to apply to return for year 2. During the year 2 pathways, students’ post-secondary plans begin to take a more defined shape. Along with concentrating on one specific curriculum area, students are trained daily in preparation for potential apprenticeship entrance examinations. The daily subject matter in year 2 is designed to prepare each student to move easily into the construction workforce or pre-apprenticeship programs for the various construction trades.
Chicago Builds 2024-2025 Application Process

The application for next year’s Chicago Builds citywide construction training program is now open to all rising 11th and 12th grade (current 10th and 11th grade) CPS students. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 PM on May 24th, 2024. While there are no minimum academic requirements for admission to Chicago Builds, priority will be given to rising Juniors entering the program.

Applications will be accepted for students once they complete all associated application paperwork including the Parental Consent Form and the Student & Parent Expectations Contract.

Chicago Builds Information Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 24th, 2024</td>
<td>Chicago Builds @ Dunbar High School</td>
<td>10:30am - 12:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 6th, 2024</td>
<td>Chicago Builds @ Dunbar High School</td>
<td>6:00pm - 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 23th, 2024</td>
<td>Chicago Builds @ Dunbar High School</td>
<td>10:30am - 12:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 10th, 2024</td>
<td>Chicago Builds @ Dunbar High School</td>
<td>6:00pm - 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step by Step Instructions

**Step 1** – It is highly recommended that students and parents visit Chicago Builds located at Dunbar HS, 3000 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60616.

**Step 2** – Complete the online [Chicago Builds Application](#).

**Step 3** – Print and complete the [Parent Consent Form](#) and [Student and Parent Expectations Contract](#).

**Step 4** – Return all documents to the Chicago Builds office via email (chicagobuilds@cps.edu) by May 24th, 2024. Early enrollment applications will close February 29th, 2024.

Chicago Builds is here to help! If you have questions give us a call at 773-534-0909 or send us an email at ChicagoBuilds@cps.edu. We are happy to answer your questions or set up a time for you to come see the program in action.