

# Plumbing and Electrical Apprenticeship Graduation 2016

[Photos of Apprenticeship Graduation 2016](#)



**For Immediate Release**

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## Governor Shumlin Commends Apprenticeship Graduates from State Registered Program

RANDOLPH CENTER, Vt – Gov. Peter Shumlin today addressed the 129 graduates of the Vermont Department of Labor’s Registered Apprenticeship Programs in electrical and plumbing trades. The programs are run in collaboration with Vermont Technical College under a grant from the Vermont Department of Labor. The ceremony was held at the VTC campus in Randolph Center.

“This program is a great example of effective workforce training. The apprenticeship graduates have a bright future and will earn good wages as skilled tradespeople”, said Governor Shumlin. “The Vermont Department of Labor is applying for additional federal funds under the new “American Apprenticeship” grant initiatives, and this will allow more Vermonters to be trained in high-demand, good wage careers, in health care, engineering, ‘green’ building, IT, advanced manufacturing and other priority sectors that have current and projected vacancies”, said Governor Shumlin.

The Department of Labor’s Apprenticeship programs currently have over 1,100 students enrolled, with classes held in various locations across the state. The electrical and plumbing programs, with over 500 students, offer some of their class instruction through VTC’s Distance Learning Program which allows local sites to assist students for whom travel to traditional classes might not be an option.

The Apprenticeship program is a “Learn while you Earn” model whereby students are earning wages while they are training, connecting their classroom experience with real life work. In some programs, apprentices can earn an industry-recognized credential and college credits. Over the course of a career, the U.S. Department of Labor estimates that a registered apprentice program is worth more than \$300,000 additional salary.

“The apprenticeship programs are an excellent re-entry point into the work world for veterans, displaced workers, long-term unemployed persons, as well as a starting point for recent high school and college graduates who are looking for career options”, said Labor Commissioner Annie Noonan.

For more information on the State Registered Apprenticeship Program, contact Judy Bourbeau at the

Vermont Department of Labor at [judy.bourbeau@vermont.gov](mailto:judy.bourbeau@vermont.gov) or call her at 802-828-5250. **For more information about Vermont Technical College, please visit [www.vtc.edu](http://www.vtc.edu).**

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