**Made in the Trade**

While exploring various career paths, you may find yourself interested in working with your hands through trade occupations. While this journey may stray from what some consider the “traditional” college route, it should certainly not be looked down upon. In fact, many trades, including one of the ones shown below earn an annual average wage above the state average. Take a look at how some select trades in Arkansas might be right for you.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Trade** | **Where are they in Arkansas?** | **Mean annual wage** | **How many workers are in the state’s workforce?** | **Education typically required** |
| Carpenters | 29.3 percent work in Northwest Arkansas | $42,620 | 3,310 | High School Diploma |
| Roofers | 33.4 percent work in Northwest Arkansas | $42,270 | 720 | High School Diploma |
| Plumbers | 29.5 percent work in Northwest Arkansas | $46,750 | 2,940 | Post-secondary nondegree award |
| HVAC | 27.4 percent work in Northwest Arkansas | $45,560 | 3,610 | Post-secondary nondegree award |
| Steel Workers | 45.1 percent work in Central Arkansas | $49,060 | 420 | High School Diploma |

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