**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 | 35.2% of the state’s Carpenters are in Northwest Arkansas | $49,840 | 3,860 | High School Diploma |
| Roofers | 39.3% of the state’s Roofers are in Northwest Arkansas | $43,840 | 860 | High School Diploma |
| Plumbers | 25.7% of the state’s Plumbers are in Northwest Arkansas | $51,630 | 3,080 | Post-secondary nondegree award |
| HVAC | 28.0% of the state’s HVAC workers are in Northwest Arkansas | $50,010 | 4,890 | Post-secondary nondegree award |
| Steel Workers | 54.8% of the state’s Steel Workers are in Northeast Arkansas | $48,970 | 910 | High School Diploma |

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