

# The Independent Electrical Contractors' Class of 2021 Enter Job Market with Job Security

*Note the Sharp Contrast: Generation Unemployed and She-Cession vs. Guaranteed Jobs and No College Debt*

HARTFORD, CT, UNITED STATES, May 6, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- May is National Electrical Safety Month and no one knows the importance of safety better than the Independent Electrical Contractors' (IEC) apprentice graduating class of 2021. Across the U.S., hundreds of IEC apprentices will graduate in May through early July. All graduates have a job, zero post-secondary education debt, and rigorous training in safety on-the-job.

On May 11 and 12, [IEC New England](#) Chapter will honor the men and women who have completed their required four-year apprenticeship training program. The ceremony will be held at the AcquaTurf Club in Plantsville, CT. Paul Dolenc, IEC's Vice President of Education and Training, will deliver the keynote commencement address. The graduation ceremony begins at 5 p.m.

The job market is starting to roar back, but for anxious college seniors it's a different reality altogether. It is well known that many are struggling to find jobs and are carrying mountains of



IEC New England supports independent electrical contractors throughout CT, RI, MA.

<b>2020 Median Pay</b>	<b>\$56,900/year \$27.36/hour</b>
<b>Typical Entry Level Education</b>	<b>High school diploma or equivalent</b>
<b>Work Experience in Related Occupation</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>On-the-Job Training</b>	<b>Apprenticeship (earn while learning)</b>
<b>Number of Jobs 2019</b>	<b>739,200</b>
<b>Job Outlook 2019-2029</b>	<b>8% much faster than average</b>
<b>Employment Change 2019-2029</b>	<b>More than 82,200 jobs per year created</b>
 <b>U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS</b>	

Electrician Job/Career Facts from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

college debt. "The electrical contracting industry, deemed essential throughout the pandemic, represents a stable, sustainable opportunity for all job seekers," says Dolenc. "In fact, our industry sector has a critical shortage of workers, pushing wages higher in the skilled trades and making these jobs even more attractive."

The problem for college students is that youth unemployment remains stubbornly high. Though much better than the 27.4% rate in April last year, the unemployment rate for those ages 16-24 ticked higher, to 11.1%, in March. That was significantly above the overall unemployment rate of 6%. \*

The electrical contracting sector represents a stable, sustainable opportunity for all job seekers: graduating high school students, military vets, women, minorities, and people seeking to make a career change.

IEC offers careers in electrical contracting that are more than just working at a jobsite. "Electrical contracting and renewable energy opportunities offer job security," says Dolenc. "This is not a boring or mundane field. Recent technology evolutions combined with the push for climate

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*Paul Dolenc*



Paul Dolenc is the keynote speaker at the IEC New England Class of 2021 commencement ceremony. He is Vice President of Education & Training at the Independent Electrical Contractors trade association located in Washington, D.C.

friendly renewable energy and the increased electrification of buildings and transportation make the start of the new decade one of the most exciting times ever to be an electrical contractor."

Smart Buildings and homes, drones, artificial intelligence, 5G, 3D Building Information Modeling, image recognition, prefabrication, and advanced levels of workplace safety technology are rapidly evolving. "This new, evolving technology is the sexy part of the business and one that IEC trains its students to understand and use," says Dolenc.

Conventional wisdom says we cannot function in a world without electricity. "This translates into career security and living wages well into the future," says Dolenc. "There is no question that electricians power this new world. We power people's lives. We power our quality of life. And electricians power the forces and infrastructure of strength, vitality, safety, and security for us all.

Learn more at <https://www.myelectriccareer.com>

\* Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, April 2021

#### About Independent Electrical Contractors

IEC is a nonprofit trade association federation with 52 educational campuses and affiliate IEC local chapters across the country. We represent over 3,600 member businesses employing more than 80,000 electrical professionals throughout the United States and educate over 14,000 electricians and systems professionals each year across America. Since 1957, we've trained close to 300 thousand apprentices in the U.S. IEC contractor member companies are responsible for over \$8.5B in gross revenue annually and are some of the premier firms in the industry. Learn more at <https://ieci.org>

#### About IEC New England

The Independent Electrical Contractors of New England, Inc. (IEC-NE) is the region's premier trade association representing Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island independent electrical and systems contractors. We aggressively work with the industry to establish a free environment for merit shops - a philosophy that promotes the concept of free enterprise, open competition, and economic opportunity for all.

Learn more at <https://www.iecne.org>

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