

FOCUS ON DRAFTING

Houston Gulf Coast Region*

1 OF 5

Got a Vision for a Great Future? **DRAW UP A DRAFTING CAREER.**

If drawing or designing comes naturally to you, then perhaps a drafting career may be a perfect fit. Learn to prepare technical drawings and plans used to build all types of things, such as industrial machinery; buildings; pipelines; manufacturing plants; electrical, electronic, and mechanical equipment. The list goes on and on! The Gulf Coast region employs a large number of drafters and faces an increasing challenge to fill upcoming vacancies as many baby boomers retire.



THE DRAFTING PROFESSION HAS MANY BRANCHES, AND INCLUDES:

- ***Aeronautical drafters*** prepare drawings used in manufacturing aircraft, missiles and related parts
- ***Architectural drafters*** draw architectural and structural drawings of buildings and other structures
- ***Civil drafters*** prepare drawings, topographical and relief maps used in major construction or civil engineering projects, such as highways, bridges, pipelines, flood control projects, and water and sewage systems
- ***Electrical drafters*** prepare wiring and layout diagrams used by workers who erect, install, and repair electrical equipment and wiring in communication centers, power plants, electrical distribution systems, and buildings
- ***Electronics drafters*** draw wiring diagrams, circuit board assembly diagrams, schematics, and layout drawings used in manufacturing, installation, and repair of electronic devices and components
- ***Mechanical drafters*** prepare drawings showing the detail and assembly of a wide variety of machinery and mechanical devices
- ***Process piping or pipeline drafters*** prepare drawings used in the layout, construction, and operation of oil and gas fields, refineries, chemical plants and process piping systems



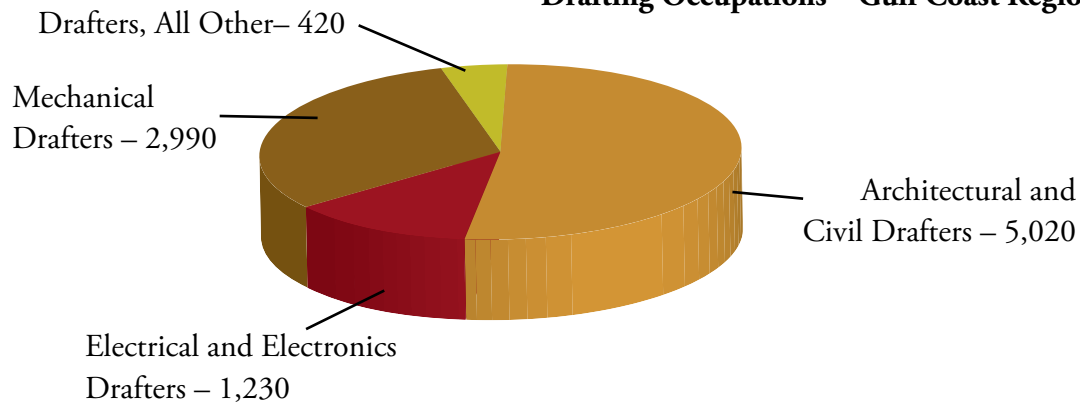
Brought to you by the Education Committee of The Gulf Coast Workforce Board.
For more information visit us on the web at www.wrksolutions.com
Latest data available. May 2011.

*Includes the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton.

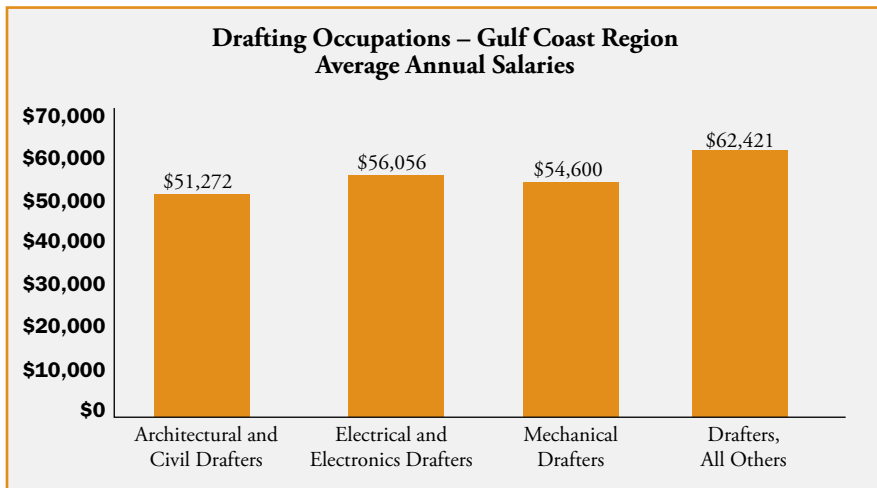
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THE NUMBER OF DRAFTING JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION IS PROJECTED TO GROW TO 9,660 BY 2018.

Drafting Occupations – Gulf Coast Region 2018

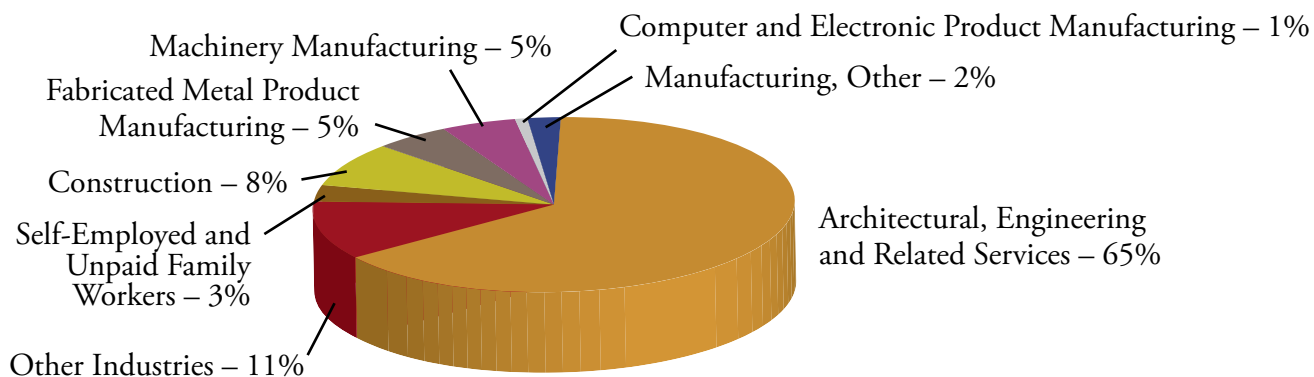


NOT ONLY ARE DRAFTERS IN DEMAND, THEY ALSO EARN GOOD SALARIES!



DRAFTERS ARE IN DEMAND ACROSS NUMEROUS INDUSTRIES.

Drafting Jobs – Gulf Coast Region 2018



PLAN EARLY TO BECOME A DRAFTER!

Entry-level drafters are generally required to have completed post-secondary school training in drafting. Training is offered at vocational schools, community colleges, and some four-year universities. There are numerous training programs that prepare students for a drafting career. First, you must decide what kind of drafting you would like to do. Applicants should be careful to select a training program that will provide them with the skills necessary for the type of drafting in which they are interested. Mechanical aptitude and visual aptitude are important for drafters. High school preparation should include mathematics, science, CADD techniques, and engineering technology.



The American Design Drafting Association (ADDA) has established a certification program for drafters. Although many employers do not require certification, taking the program will give you an advantage over individuals without it. Certification demonstrates knowledge and understanding of nationally recognized practices. Additional information can be found at www.adda.org.

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PREPARING FOR A CAREER IN DRAFTING*

9th Grade			
Suggested Coursework			
	English I	World Geography	Career-Related Electives: Technology Systems (Modular Lab Based) or Research and Technical Writing
	Algebra I	Languages other than English I	
	Biology	Health/PE or Equivalent	
10th Grade			
Suggested Coursework			
	English II	World History	Career-Related Electives: Architectural Graphics or Engineering Graphics or Electricity/Electronics Technology
	Geometry	Languages other than English II	
	Chemistry	Technology Applications	
11th Grade			
Suggested Coursework			
	English III	United States History	Career-Related Electives: Technical Introduction To Computer Aided Drafting AND Languages other than English III
	Algebra II	Communication Applications	
	Physics	PE or Equivalent	
12th Grade			
Suggested Coursework			
	English IV	Government/Economics	Career-Related Electives: Engineering and Architectural Drafting, AND Languages other than English IV
	Precalculus	Fine Arts	
	Engineering		

*Source: AchieveTexas.org

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GULF COAST REGION – DRAFTING PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Alvin Community College
- Brazosport
- College of the Mainland
- Houston Community College
- Lee College
- Lone Star College
- San Jacinto College
- Wharton County Junior College

UNIVERSITIES

- Prairie View A&M University
- Sam Houston State University
- Texas Southern University
- University of Houston

MAJOR EMPLOYERS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

- AECOM
- Baker Hughes
- BJ Services
- Brown & Gay Engineers
- Cameron
- CDI Engineering
- Dow Chemical
- FKP Architects
- FMC Technologies
- Foster Wheeler
- Fluor
- Gensler
- Halliburton
- Hewlett Packard
- HOK
- Jacobs
- Kirksey
- Lockheed, Andrews & Newman
- National Oilwell Varco
- Page Southerland Page
- PBK
- S & B Engineering and Contractors
- Shaw
- Smith International
- Stewart & Stevenson
- TCB Group Holding
- Transocean
- URS Corp.
- Weatherford
- WHR Architects
- Worley Parsons



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