

# Brickmasons and Blockmasons

**Entry wages (2015):** \$15.40 per hour or \$32,029.00 annually

**Projected growth (2015-2025)** Faster than average at 45.1% in Tarrant County

## What will you do?

Masonry workers, uses bricks, concrete blocks, concrete, natural and manmade stones, in the construction to build walls, walkways, fences and other masonry structures. There are five different types of masonry workers: **Brickmasons** and **blockmasons**—called *bricklayers*—build and repair walls, floors, partitions, fireplaces, chimneys, and other structures with brick, terra cotta, precast masonry panels, concrete block, and other masonry materials. **Cement masons and concrete finishers** place and finish concrete. They may color concrete surfaces, expose aggregate (small stones) in walls and sidewalks, or make concrete beams, columns, and panels. **Segmental pavers**—also referred to as *patio pavers*—install interlocking masonry walkways, driveways, and patios. **Stonemasons** build stone walls, as well as set stone exteriors and floors. They work with two types of stone: natural-cut stone, such as marble, granite, and limestone; and artificial stone, made from concrete, marble chips, or other masonry materials. **Terrazzo workers and finishers**, also known as *terrazzo masons*, create decorative walkways, floors, patios, and panels.

## Where will you work?

Brickmasons and blockmasons work mainly outdoors on residential and non-residential projects, but they can be found working indoors. This occupation is strenuous requiring someone to be in good physical condition. Bad weather can affect work schedules, and the location of the construction worksite can vary depending on the project assignment.

## What Experience do you need?

Most brickmasons and blockmasons gain experience through an apprenticeship program or on the job starting as a construction helper. Employed Masons who learned through an apprenticeship started knowing construction basics in blueprint reading, mathematics with measurements and volume, mixing proportions, building code requirements; and safety and first aid practices. Apprenticeship programs are widely supported by this industry due to the brickmason and blockmason competencies and standards that are being taught.

## What type of Training do I need?

An apprenticeship program can be 3-4 years, however there are certificate courses offered in technical school programs to assist in gaining an entry level apprentice brickmason and blockmason position. For each year, an apprentice must complete at least 144 hours technical training and 2,000 hours of **paid-on-the-job training**. Several groups, including unions and contractor associations, sponsor apprenticeship programs. Some apprenticeship programs have preferred entry for veterans.



**47-2021.00 – Brickmasons and Blockmasons (ONET Code)**

## What else should I know?

Criminal backgrounds are considered on a case-by-case-basis on the nature of the offense, how long the offense(s) occurred, and work history since the conviction(s). The employer may have specific restrictions on hiring certain criminal background applicants due to the building contract's nature or terms, such as building a new school.

# Approved Tarrant County Training Programs

Provider	Program Name	Hours (Contact/Credit)	Cost	Pell Eligible
University of Texas at Arlington, Division of Continuing Education	Level I Brick and Block Masonry Certificate Program	320/0	\$2,850.00	No

\*This information is subject to change. See a Workforce Center Career Counselor for more information.



# Career Pathway Map – Brickmason & Blockmason Occupation

