



Frequently Asked Questions

What programs can I apply for now?

We have open enrollment for HOPEworks, meaning you can apply any time. For our other programs, we typically start recruitment one month prior to each cohort's start date. Please refer to the [start dates](#) of each program prior to applying. If you are applying for a program for which we are not currently recruiting, your application will be **put on hold** and **you will not be contacted** until 4 weeks prior to the start date of the program you selected.

How do I know which program is the best fit for me?

The program you select should be based on the industry that interests you:

- **HOPEworks** prepares participants for jobs in diverse sectors, including **animal care, maintenance, retail, customer service, clerical/administrative work, food service, and more.**
- **Sustainable South Bronx** and **CoolRoofs** provide job opportunities in **construction, commercial driving, and warehouse work.**
- **Intervine** offers a **horticultural/landscaping** track, and also offers job placements in **warehouse work, construction, clean energy, and green infrastructure.**
- **YouthBuild** is for individuals between the ages of **18-24** who are interested in obtaining their **High School Equivalency** with a focus on securing employment in the broad **construction industry.**

How can I get more information before applying?

Please fill out our [contact form](#) to get in touch with us or attend a virtual information session held [here](#) every Tuesday and Thursday at 1pm. No RSVP required to attend an information session.

How do I know if I am eligible for the program?

Please refer to our [eligibility requirements](#).

What if I don't have my high school diploma?

HOPE **does not require** a High School Diploma or High School Equivalency to participate in our program.

Is there an age limit to apply?

We serve individuals who are **18 and above**. We **do not have a maximum age limit** to apply to our programs. The **only exception is for our YouthBuild program**, which serves individuals ages 18 to 24.

How do I get into the program?

You can fill out our application by clicking [here](#) or by attending one of our virtual information sessions, which are held every Tuesday and Thursday at 1pm. After you complete our application and pre-assessment, our team will contact you to schedule an admissions appointment. This is an interview to assess your readiness for the program. All admissions appointments are currently being held remotely due to COVID.

Are classes virtual or in person?

Currently, **most of our classes are being held virtually** due to COVID, with the exception of our two transitional employment programs (CoolRoofs and Intervine). These two programs are delivered in a **blended model** (combination of remote and in-person) as there are in-person work engagements in which students are required to participate.

What if I don't have access to a computer or Internet?

HOPE can loan students a laptop and WiFi hotspot upon request. This happens after you complete all admissions steps and meet with our Recruitment Team.

What safety protocols is HOPE following for in-person training activities?

HOPE follows city and state guidelines by mandating that crew members stay at least 6ft apart, wear masks and other PPE at all times, and frequently sanitize their hands and tools. Hope will provide the resources necessary for participants to comply with these protocols.

Does HOPE provide paid training?

Yes, Intervine and CoolRoofs are paid transitional employment programs. We also offer stipends to YouthBuild participants and a potential opportunity for a paid internship upon completing our HOPEworks program.

What types of certifications can I get at HOPE?

There are many certifications that you can obtain at HOPE. **Please note that the certifications you obtain will depend on your program track, as not all certifications are needed in every industry.** HOPE offers OSHA-10, Food Handlers, Site Safety Training (which includes OSHA-30, 8-hour Fall Prevention, and 2-hour Drug & Alcohol), Scaffolding, Flaggers, First Aid/CPR, Confined Spaces, Building Systems, Electrical Systems, Climate & Green Infrastructure, Basic Tool ID & Carpentry, and Solar PV Installation, Asbestos, HAZWOPER, Air Sealer, and Multibuilding Family Operator. HOPE **does not offer stand-alone certifications** and students can only obtain certifications by participating in our programs.

What if I already have my OSHA or other certifications that HOPE offers?

If you already have your OSHA or another certification we offer, that's fine! **You can still attend our programs** as this will not disqualify you from doing so. Certifications are part of what we offer in our programs, but they are not the only benefit from attending our programs as we offer so much more.

Do I have to complete the entire program in order to receive a certification?

Yes. In order to obtain certifications, you are required to attend the entire program.

Can I complete more than one program?

No, we only allow individuals to go through one program as our main objective is to provide you with the necessary tools and skills to help you secure and retain employment as soon as possible. No matter which program you choose, you will gain many skills and knowledge to enter the field you are interested in.

Do you provide case management services?

Yes, we have a Work Wellness Department and case managers to provide individuals with any support they might need. We have a holistic approach and understand that individuals may have unique needs.

Am I guaranteed a job after I complete the program?

While we cannot guarantee that you will find a job, we can promise you that we are extremely committed to helping you secure employment. Our main goal is to support individuals in building a sustainable career and future for themselves. We have a dedicated Employment Team that not only supports individuals in securing employment, but also maintaining it. HOPE has hundreds of employer partners and will work with you to help you find a job. While we are committed to put in the work, it also depends on your effort and willingness to find employment.

What employer partners do you work with?

You can view some of our top employers [here](#); however, we cannot guarantee opportunities with these specific partners. HOPE offers job placements in a wide variety of sectors, including (but not limited to):

- Customer Service
- Healthcare and Social Assistance: Direct Support Professional, Home Health Aide, Entry Level Non-Clinical Positions, etc.
- Construction
- Maintenance and Porter
- Warehouse and Logistics
- Manufacturing

- Hospitality
- Green Economy (sustainability, energy supply, horticulture)

Does HOPE provide retention services?

Yes, HOPE offers retention incentives for employment milestones, ongoing career coaching, access to a financial counselor for one year upon program completion, and so much more! HOPE also offers **lifelong career support**, meaning that our graduates can always come to us if they need our services.