ELECTRICIAN APPRENTICESHIP | FOUR-YEAR PATHWAY

Cohort dates & program overview

A practical route into electrical work, with structured instruction and supervised on-the-job training.

First cohort: January 11, 2027
Orientation: January 7, 2027
Second intake: September 13, 2027
Tuition: $4,500 per year for four years | $18,000 total

2027 admissions calendar

Milestone	January cohort	September cohort
Applications open	October 13, 2026	May 3, 2027
Priority application deadline	December 11, 2026	July 30, 2027
Interview / record review	December 14-18, 2026	August 2-13, 2027
Final application / documents	January 4, 2027	August 27, 2027
Orientation	January 7, 2027	September 9, 2027
First instructional session	January 11, 2027	September 13, 2027

Applicants receive their assigned cohort, instructional location, class format and employer/OJT arrangements in their admission notice. Any calendar change is communicated directly to affected applicants before the revised date. Submitting an application does not reserve or confirm a seat.

A schedule designed for working adults

Evening instructional schedule

Monday and Thursday, 6:30-8:45 p.m. Eastern Time: 2.25 instructional hours per session, 4.5 per teaching week. Thirty-two teaching weeks provide 144 hours of related technical instruction (RTI) per year. Instruction is organized into two 16-teaching-week blocks, with published holiday dates and make-up sessions. A dated instructional calendar is supplied before enrollment. Breaks and noninstructional time do not count toward RTI hours.

Four-year electrician pathway

Program pathway: 8,000 supervised on-the-job training (OJT) hours and 576 RTI hours across four years, with 144 RTI hours annually. The sponsor-approved apprenticeship standards govern actual hours, competencies, progress and completion. Four calendar years alone do not guarantee completion; work-hour availability and successful instruction matter.

Employment and academy admission are separate

Registered apprenticeship is employer-driven. An applicant must be hired by or already employed with an appropriate registered sponsor before official apprentice registration. Academy acceptance does not guarantee a SmartGrid job, wage, employer placement, tuition funding or a tradesman license. Identify the employer and approved OJT arrangement before representing someone as a registered apprentice.

Application and cohort assignment

Complete the application, provide the listed education and experience records, and attend the interview or record review. Admissions evaluates eligibility under the approved standards, then issues the acceptance decision and assigned cohort. Enrollment is confirmed only after required agreements, records and payment arrangements are completed. Applicants not assigned a seat may request the next intake or waitlist.

Adult entry and individual support

The evening cohort is intended for applicants 18+. Under-18 applicants require separate youth-program review under sponsor standards and job restrictions. Contact admissions to discuss missing education records, prior training, accessible interview arrangements or scheduling concerns. Applicants receive written admission conditions and a student handbook before enrollment.

Program contact: 757.840.5785 | 844.717.6278 | Onlysmartgridelectric@gmail.com
Source: Virginia Works, Become a Registered Apprentice / Registered Apprenticeship FAQs, virginiaworks.gov. Accessed October 12, 2026.