

SOURCED UNION REFERENCE

UA, IBEW & SMART press kit

A concise, neutral reference covering each union's purpose, history, represented work, member benefits and official sources.

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[Find a local](#)

At a glance

UA, IBEW and SMART are separate labor organizations with different industries, structures and local agreements. The summaries below use their official materials; local dues, benefits, hiring halls and application rules are not standardized nationally.

Founded in 1889

UA

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry

Plumbing, pipefitting, steamfitting, sprinkler fitting, HVACR service, welding and related piping work.

[Explore UA](#)

Founded in 1891

IBEW

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Electrical construction and maintenance, utilities, telecommunications, broadcasting, manufacturing, railroads and government work.

[Explore IBEW](#)

Formed in 2008 from unions with roots in 1868 and 1888

SMART

International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers

Sheet metal, HVAC service, welding, production, sign work, freight and passenger rail, bus and transit, and related transportation work.

[Explore SMART](#)

UA

Founded in 1889

Mission and purpose

The UA describes its standard around quality, professionalism, integrity, workplace safety and productive delivery across the piping industry.

History

The organization traces its history to 1889 and represents plumbers, pipefitters, sprinkler fitters, HVACR service technicians, welders and related trades across North America.

Member benefits and resources

- Registered apprenticeship and continuing training for skilled pipe trades
- Collectively bargained wages and benefit programs, which vary by local agreement
- Workplace representation and a union voice on safety and job conditions
- Paths to specialty certifications and leadership development

Official sources

[About the UA](#) 

[Join the UA](#) 

[UA training](#) 

Mission and purpose

The IBEW states that its longstanding goal is to promote excellence in the electrical industry and improve members' lives through representation, training and professional standards.

History

Ten electrical workers met in St. Louis in 1891 to form a national union for a demanding and dangerous craft. The union now represents workers across construction, utilities, telecommunications, broadcasting, manufacturing, railroads and government.

Member benefits and resources

- Collectively bargained contracts and workplace representation
- Industry training and apprenticeship through local and partner programs
- Safety standards, education and leadership development
- Pension, death and disability benefits for eligible members under applicable plans

Official sources

[About the IBEW](#) 

[IBEW history and museum](#) 

[IBEW education](#) 

[IBEW membership benefits](#) 

SMART

Formed in 2008 from unions with roots in 1868 and 1888

Mission and purpose

SMART says it advocates for fairness in the workplace, excellence at work and opportunity for working families across the industries its members serve.

History

SMART formed in January 2008 through the merger of the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association and United Transportation Union, joining two organizations with more than 200 years of combined history.

Member benefits and resources

- Registered apprenticeship and career training in sheet metal and related crafts
- Collective bargaining and workplace representation
- Safety and health programs for represented industries
- Member savings and benefits programs, subject to eligibility and local arrangements

Official sources

[About SMART](#) 

[History of SMART](#) 

[SMART training](#) 

[SMART member savings and benefits](#) 

Look up a local's published rates

Pick a trade, city and effective year to see each local's sourced journeyman hourly rate and total package. Every figure links to its source sheet; locals without a sourced sheet are not shown.

Trade

Plumbers & Pipefitte... 

City

All cities 

Effective year

Any year 

223 locals with a sourced rate

UA Local 219

Akron, OH · Effective 6/7/24

[Source: unionpayscales.com](#) 

\$45.37/hr

\$69.73/hr package

UA Local 7

Albany, NY · Effective 8/11/26

[Source: unionpayscales.com](#) 

\$57.56/hr

\$86.11/hr package

UA Local 412

Albuquerque, NM · Effective 4/18/26

Source: unionpayscales.com [↗](#)

\$44.32/hr

\$60.02/hr package

UA Local 247

\$22.50/hr

Need weekly or yearly pay? [Open the full rate calculator.](#)

Using this press kit

This independent reference was prepared by Gulfstream Strategic Placements from the official union sources linked above. Gulfstream is a private recruiting firm and is not affiliated with, authorized by or speaking for the UA, IBEW, SMART or any local union. Benefits, dues, eligibility, referral procedures and agreements vary by local; confirm current details directly with the appropriate hall.

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