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Independent Electrical Contractors-Rocky Mountain Graduates Largest Class of Electrical Apprentices in its History

100 Percent Employed with No College Debt

On **Saturday, June 9th, a record 153 electrical apprentices graduated** from the Independent Electrical Contractors Rocky Mountain (IECRM) Four-Year Electrical Apprentice Program in a special graduation ceremony at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities.

Most notable about this graduating class was that they are 100 percent employed and none of these graduates is saddled with college debt to deal with after graduation. In addition, these graduates are either licensed journeymen or will become licensed in the coming months. A large audience of hundreds of guests including family members, friends, spouses, instructors, and employers attended to celebrate the graduates. IECRM is the largest IEC electrical apprenticeship training program in the country.

Trade schools like IECRM are popular vehicles for students who want to fast-track into well paying highly skilled careers. Vocational training is also perfect for adult students looking to advance in their current career or even change careers altogether.

“To me, graduating from IECRM is like climbing a mountain in Colorado: it's a long, hard journey and sometimes you genuinely wonder if you will achieve the goal,” said Jonathon Heaner, 2018 class Valedictorian and apprentice at Weifield Electrical Contracting. “But once you reach the top, you see a whole new world of mountains beyond you - bigger, taller, more challenging. This is the fruit of many years of hard work, but it has been worth it as I see a world of opportunity open in front of me...the sky is the limit, and indeed, the sky is the goal.”

IECRM provides training and instruction in electrical contracting. “We teach job specific skills designed to enable a student's advancement in a high-paying profession, electrical contracting,” says Paul Lingo, IECRM’s Training Director. “We emphasize the practical, as opposed to the academic education, and our student apprentices all are employed and receive on-the-job training at the same time. This **earn while you learn** format gives students a leg-up when it comes to beginning their careers, with no college debt to deal with after graduation. By the time a student graduates from the Four Year Apprenticeship Program, most have doubled their income with full-time positions that pay a living wage with health benefits."

IECRM also offers degree-transfer programs, allowing a student to transfer some of their credits to a community or four-year college or university. These degree-transfer programs allow students to leverage a vocational education as a useful stepping-stone to a baccalaureate degree.

Each IECRM graduate received a certificate of completion from the IECRM Four-Year Apprentice Program; a certificate of Completion and Transcript from Emily Griffith Technical College recognizing completion of up to 42 hours of transferable college credit; an IEC National Certificate of Achievement; and certain students received certificates of completion from the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship and Training for meeting the standards and requirements prescribed by the U.S. Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship Program.

About IECRM

IECRM is a trade association for the electrical contracting and renewable energy industry serving Colorado and Wyoming. It represents more than 225 member companies and educates more than 2,200 electrical apprentices and licensed electricians annually. IECRM serves all of the Denver Metro area with campuses in Northglenn and Ft. Collins, and offers live, online instruction for remote students.

The IECRM Career College is recognized by the U.S. DOL Office of Apprenticeship (OA), and approved and regulated by the Colorado Department of Higher Education, Division of Private Occupational Schools Board.

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