

# MESO Lineworker Apprentice Program

(Updated July 1, 2023)



## Q&A

### **Q: How does the program work?**

**A:** The program has 78 modules that include online videos, digital workbooks, and exams accessible from any device connected to the internet. As this is an online program, all students are required to have a unique email address.

MESO determines the modules required to complete a training year. The program remains a four-year program. The instructor -formerly known as the proctor - is responsible for making and overseeing training course assignments as outlined by MESO and reviewing student performance in real time, both with knowledge tests and skills assessments.

The instructor can also view student access logs, including courses accessed, and tests taken. The online program offers “Over the Shoulder” functionality, allowing the instructor to view any student’s account, as if they were the student.

Based on the instructor’s expectations, the student will work through the online material. Each student will have responsibility for their unique account information and password, and a unique email address is required. The “student” is required to pass all tests with a minimum score of 80 percent.

### **Q: How do we get started with the new MESO Lineworker Apprentice Program?**

**A:** MESO can send you a registration link or you can find it on the MESO website. Then MESO creates a user account (either student or instructor) and assigns the appropriate class template or course group. The student will receive an email stating that they have been enrolled and will need to follow the link provided to create a password for their account.

### **Q: How will my employee access the learning materials?**

**A:** After the student is registered with MESO, he will receive an email directed to his email address with instructions to access the system. The link to that website is <https://meso.tdps.app/>.

### **Q: How much does the program cost?**

**A:** The program is \$925 per participant per year.

### **Q: What happens if I have an employee in the current MESO Lineworker Program?**

**A:** Anyone currently in the MESO Apprentice Lineworker Program may transfer into the new program for a one-time \$200 fee or finish the year in the current program with no additional charge. All participants in the current program are required to enter the new program after completing their current year.



**Q: As a student, what can I expect?**

A: The MESO Lineworker Apprentice Program provides comprehensive 78-title online video lineworker training program geared to instruct electric utility lineworkers with up-to-date, safety-related work practices and technical skills related to the installation, maintenance, and removal of transmission and distribution systems. NOTE: As this is an online program, all students are required to have a unique email address.

The 78 modules are broken down into four “years.” The term “year” for the purposes of the MESO Lineworker Apprentice Program is set of modules required to be completed rather than a fixed amount of time. The program is made up of four years. The training material is broken up into short, digestible sections that reinforce core principles, while consistently teaching procedures that adhere to industry best practices.

The student will work through the modules as assigned by the instructor and pass the module test with a score of 80 percent. It is the student’s responsibility to maintain their account and password while working through the training program.

After the student is registered with MESO, he will receive an email directed to his email address with instructions to access the system. The link to that website is <https://meso.tdps.app/>.

**Q: What is a reasonable amount of time required to complete the program? Is it four calendar years?**

A: The term “year” for the purposes of the MESO Lineworker Apprentice Program is set of modules required to be completed rather than a fixed amount of time. The program is made up of four years. With the new online system, it is reasonable to expect most participants will be able complete modules required in a “year” and finish the program in 48 months or less.

**Q: What is the role of the instructor?**

A: The “instructor” is expected to make and oversee training course assignments and review student performance in real time, both with knowledge tests and skills assessments. The “instructor” also is able to view student access logs, including courses accessed, and tests taken. The online program offers “Over the Shoulder” functionality, allowing an instructor to view any student’s account, as if they were the student.

**Q: If I have more than one employee in the program, do I need to pay for them or am I paying for access to the course?**

A: Yes, the cost per year is \$925 per year per participant?

**Q: What happens if my employee fails a test?**

A: All tests should be proctored, and the pass/fail threshold is 80 percent. If a student fails a test three times, they are locked out of that particular training module. The instructor will have to reopen the module, and it will need to be retaken. After failing once, we recommend a review, after the second fail may require more in-depth conversation between student and instructor.

**Q: What happens if I have an employee leave during the training?**

A: While MESO is committed to supporting our members and understands that adjustments sometimes need to be made, the one-time registration fee is not refundable unless there are extenuating circumstances. Contact Cheryl Adams at [cheryl@meso.org](mailto:cheryl@meso.org) to discuss a possible refund.

**Q: How knowledgeable do I need to be with technology?**

A: T&D PowerSkills LMS is considered to be very user-friendly even for individuals with limited technology skills or experience.

**Q: Is the information OSHA-compliant?**

A: Yes, and each unit highlights specific OSHA Regulations Snap-Shots pertaining to the topic discussed and where to find them in the legal record

**Q: How often is the training material updated?**

A: T&D PowerSkills updates the course materials on an ongoing basis. For example, they currently have 12 modules being updated.

**Q: Who do I contact with questions?**

A: Students need to direct all questions to their instructor. The instructor can direct questions to Tom Dougherty at [tomd@meso.org](mailto:tomd@meso.org) or Deborah Miner-Gonzales at [deborah@meso.org](mailto:deborah@meso.org)

**MESO Lineworker Apprenticeship Program Contact Information:**

- Tom Dougherty, MESO Director of Job Training & Safety – [tomd@meso.org](mailto:tomd@meso.org) or 405-528-7564 ext. 5
- Jerry Havens, T&D PowerSkills - [jerry@tdpowerskills.com](mailto:jerry@tdpowerskills.com) or (866)880-1380
- Cheryl Adams, MESO General Manager – [cheryl@meso.org](mailto:cheryl@meso.org) or 405-528-7564 ext. 7
- Deborah Miner-Gonzales, MESO Director of Administration and Finance – [deborah@meso.org](mailto:deborah@meso.org) or 405-528-7564 ext. 1

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