

TRADEFUTURES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rowan University and NABTU Launch the Building Trades Academy

Washington, D.C. – March 3rd, 2025 – [Rowan University](#) and [North America's Building Trades Unions \(NABTU\)](#) have officially launched the [Building Trades Academy \(BTA\)](#), marking a significant milestone in expanding educational opportunities for union apprentices, journeypersons, and seasoned trades professionals. The BTA offers specialized certificates and degree programs in construction and engineering management, equipping union members with essential leadership, business, and labor law skills tailored to the construction industry.

A formal event last Thursday hosted on Rowan's Glassboro campus commemorated the partnership, bringing together key leaders, including **New Jersey Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo, NABTU Director of Research and Education Dr. Tom Kriger, Rowan University leadership, and BTA faculty**. The collaboration underscores a shared commitment to advancing workforce development and strengthening career pathways in the trades.

A distinctive feature of the BTA is its strong emphasis on **women's leadership development** in the construction industry, reinforcing efforts to foster an well-rounded workforce. The event also recognized [TradesFutures Opportunity Scholarship](#) recipients—union members, women, minorities, and Veterans, including participants in the [Helmets to Hardhats](#) program—who are furthering their education through the BTA initiative. This scholarship awards \$7200 to recipients to aid in their BTA program path.

Rowan University, serving as the academic home for the BTA, continues to uphold its mission of **accessibility, affordability, and economic impact**. This partnership aligns with NABTU's dedication to providing lifelong career pathways in the skilled trades. The first program is set to launch in **April 2025**, marking the beginning of a transformative era in union education.

Together, NABTU and Rowan University are building a stronger and more skilled construction workforce for the future.

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About TradesFutures: TradesFutures is a non-profit corporation organized to develop, promote, and improve Apprenticeship Readiness Programs (“ARPs”). ARPs are educational programs that provide students with the fundamental skills and knowledge necessary to choose, obtain, and succeed in a formal, registered apprenticeship in the construction industry. TradesFutures is also

dedicated to assisting women, veterans, and people of color in establishing and maintaining careers in the construction industry. Learn more about TradesFutures and its work to develop a more diverse and accessible quality construction workforce at tradesfutures.org.

About Rowan University: A top 100 national public research institution, Rowan University offers bachelor's through doctoral and professional programs in person and online to 23,000 students. With eight colleges and nine schools, Rowan focuses on practical research at the intersection of health care, engineering, science and business while ensuring excellence in undergraduate education. Rowan has earned national recognition for innovation, high-quality, affordable education and public-private partnerships. One of two public universities in the nation to offer M.D. and D.O. degree programs, Rowan is developing New Jersey's first veterinary medical school.