

Philly Career Launch *Industry At-A-Glance*

The Utilities Industry in Philadelphia

Utility services are fundamental to modern society. The utilities industry is made up of companies that build and maintain the infrastructure needed to provide electricity, gas, and water, or to manage wastewater and sewage.¹ Examples of utilities in Philadelphia are: PECO Energy, Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW), and the Philadelphia Water Department.

The utilities industry at the national level has grown slowly over the past decade and is even projected to decline over the next decade.² However, with the federal government's goal of reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, the "energy infrastructure" portion of the industry is fundamentally shifting to "clean energy jobs." In 2022, 3.1 million jobs, or 40 percent of all energy jobs, met the definition of clean energy jobs. As a group, clean energy jobs are growing faster than overall US jobs.³

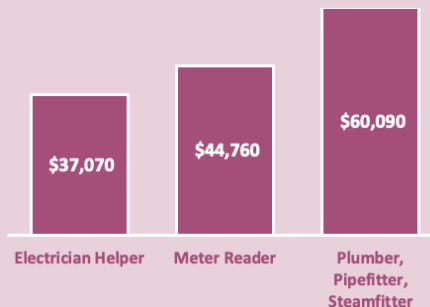
Most positions in the utilities industry require at least a high school degree and sometimes vocational training in a skilled trade. Jobs vary greatly in their responsibilities and generally have good pay. Some are in the **maintenance** area, such as ensuring a clean work environment or repairing broken equipment. Others involve operating **heavy equipment**, like forklift operators who move materials and equipment. **Out-in-the field** positions include inspectors and meter readers. Here are some examples of positions in the utilities industry:

CAREERS IN THE UTILITIES INDUSTRY

Electrician Helper
Electrical Powerline Installer/Repairer
Control and Valve Installer/Repairer
Plumber, Pipefitter, and Steamfitter

Meter Reader
Power Distributor/Dispatcher
Water/Wastewater
Treatment Plant Operator

Annual Wages⁴



Utilities in Philadelphia



Clean Energy Jobs

3.1 million

number of jobs in 2022 that met the net-zero aligned definition of "clean energy jobs."³

WAYS TO EXPLORE CAREERS IN THE UTILITIES INDUSTRY

#1. Learn about different careers in the utilities industry, including what type of training is required for getting started.

ACTION STEP: Check out [Career Cruising](#) for useful information on 16 career clusters (free with a library card).

#2. Look for training programs in utilities careers that you think might be a good fit for you.

ACTION STEP: Visit the [Career Training Database](#) and connect with programs.

#3. Seek guidance and support from a trusted friend, relative, or advisor as you launch your career in the utilities industry.

ACTION STEP: Find [PA CareerLink® events](#) at neighborhood libraries that offer one-on-one job search guidance.