

Adrienne Begay:

My name is Adrienne Begay. I am a third year apprentice with Salt River Project. I am a substation electrician apprentice.

Since I was 18, I worked construction and I grew up mechanically inclined. I grew up working with my hands, taking things apart, putting things back together. I enjoyed that, but it just wasn't satisfying. My mom's a retiree from Salt River Project. My dad also worked for Salt River Project at one point in his career.

My goal going into Salt River was to get an apprenticeship. When I tried out for multiple apprenticeships, I really liked the committee members with the substation electrician committee. They seemed like they were my type of people. It was just a place where I was welcomed and felt completely comfortable. We maintain equipment that help provide power on the power grid, and that entails constructing a substation, doing maintenance on transformers, installing new transformers.

I really enjoy the troubleshooting of things. I really like when we have a troubleshooting situation and we all, just as a team, we all get together to try to brainstorm what the issue is and when you get to a point to where you solve that problem is pretty awesome to be a part of. As well as just also the physical demands of some of the work that we do, I also enjoy that.

I think registered apprenticeship programs are great because it's an actual structured program, and I think that the people that do put these programs together have put a lot of effort into making them successful and wanting to get a quality employee, a quality journey worker.

I believe in finding a career that makes you happy. Like with Salt River, been very fortunate to try multiple apprenticeship orientations to see what stuck, and I was able to find one that I did enjoy.

Speaker 2:

Want to become an apprentice? Find out more by visiting us online at [des.az.gov/apprenticeship-program](https://des.az.gov/apprenticeship-program).