



LAES has developed a series of immigrant issue instructional modules entitled "Tierra de Oportunidad" for orientation to our complex society.

Laying the Foundation What is a nontraditional job?

Nontraditional jobs for women are any jobs in which 75% or more of those employed are men, i.e., carpenter, auto mechanic, welder, printer, maintenance mechanic, milker, computer repair technician, cable installer, pest controller and truck driver.

Why should more women consider nontraditional jobs?

- It is a fact that 43% of all working women are employed as clerical workers, retail salespeople, waitresses, and hairdressers, which can be classified as "traditional" female jobs.
- Women in traditional jobs earn 20% to 30% less than women in nontraditional occupations. Such occupational segregation is the main reason why women make 73 cents for every dollar that men make.
- Many women are just as capable as men to meet the physical demands of nontraditional work.
- Women who choose nontraditional work enjoy a high degree of work satisfaction.
- Nontraditional jobs better enable women to support themselves and their families.
- All workers, male or female, have a right to choose among a full range of occupations, not just those dictated by tradition and specialization.

Examples of Nontraditional Jobs

Computer repair technician	Pest control
Plumber	Heating, ventilation & refrigeration mechanic
Cable installer	Machine tooler
Bricklayer	Electrician
Household appliance installer/repairer	Painter
Welder	Irrigation technician
Printer	Auto mechanic
Truck driver	Machinist
Cabinet maker	Boiler mechanic
Carpenter	Environmental technician
Heavy equipment operator	Landscaper
	Utility worker

Developed by WOW and is being used by the Sacramento County Assessment Network. It can be adapted for use the other communities, with an acknowledgement to WOW.

Authors: Ed Kissam and Holda Dorsey

A project of the California Department of Education, Youth, Adult and Alternative Educational Services Division, funded by contract #4213 of the Federal P.L. 100-297, Section 353 with California State University Institute and Hacienda LaPuente USD. However, the content does not necessarily reflect the position of that unit or of the U.S. Office of Education. 1997