



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY EXPANDS APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM TO  
INCLUDE TRACK FOR MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS**

**DETROIT** – The Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) today announced that it is expanding its Apprenticeship Program to include a new three-year, 10-month apprenticeship designed to train and hire up to 20 Maintenance Technicians for GLWA. Classes will begin in January 2019.

“At GLWA, we are committed to team member development at all levels. Expanding the Apprenticeship Program for our current and future GLWA team members is a result of that commitment,” said Stephanie Stevenson, director of organizational development, GLWA. “From operation-specific training to prepare team members for licensing, or state certification to two multi-year apprentice programs, GLWA has its eye on the future, and we need talented, well-qualified individuals to help get us there.”

GLWA has committed to launching one new U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) apprenticeship program per year until the system’s remaining needs are met to ensure a trained and sustainable workforce.

Similar to GLWA’s first apprenticeship program, this second apprenticeship track will provide on-the-job training and education with full program tuition paid by GLWA. The apprentices will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with GLWA Journey Workers to learn the various operations within the Authority’s system, such as the installation, maintenance and repair of water lines and fixtures, installing and repairing water meters, decommissioning meters, welding, electrical maintenance, troubleshooting, and more. Apprentices will rotate job locations every six months until the end of their program. They will also be exposed to a wide variety of college courses during their three years and 10 months at Henry Ford College, allowing them the opportunity to receive credits toward a college degree.

Upon completion of the program, Maintenance Technicians will receive guaranteed employment within the GLWA system in an area for which they have received training, a Maintenance Technician Certification from Henry Ford College, and a USDOL Journey Worker card.



The internal recruiting process for the program is currently underway, and GLWA will also be conducting interviews with Focus: HOPE Pre-Apprentice Training graduates. All interested applicants are required to complete the TABE (Test for Adult Basic Education) Assessment offered through Focus: HOPE and successfully complete Pre-Apprenticeship Training to be considered for the program.

GLWA's inaugural Apprenticeship Program for Electrical Instrumentation Control Technicians (EICT-I) is currently in the second year of its three-year duration, training 20 apprentices to receive their EICT-I certification.

Collectively, the EICT-I Apprentices have completed 28.5 percent or 5,200 hours of required on-the-job training. Most have accomplished 12 credit hours and 188 contact hours of related classroom training by completing a customized core class at Henry Ford College.

For more information on the program and GLWA, please visit [www.glwater.org](http://www.glwater.org)

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### **About the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA)**

The Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) is the provider of choice for water and wastewater services to 127 municipalities in seven Southeastern Michigan counties. With the Great Lakes as source water, the GLWA is uniquely positioned to provide its customers water of unquestionable quality. GLWA has capacity to extend its service to other Southeastern Michigan communities. The authority offers a Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP) to assist low-income residential customers throughout the system. The GLWA board includes one representative each from Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties as well as two representatives from the City of Detroit, and one appointed by the governor of Michigan to represent customer communities outside the tri-county area.