

**What is the GRIT Foundation?**

The GRIT Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering youth through hands-on learning. We partner with experienced trades professionals to run one-day GRIT Camps nationwide, introducing young people to skilled trades like HVAC, electrical, plumbing, and carpentry, and to meaningful, debt-free career paths. We also offer GRIT Workshops that provide interactive, hands-on training for youth, young adults, and trades professionals.

What is GRIT's mission?

At GRIT, our mission is to reignite curiosity in the skilled trades, the "lost art" of building, fixing, and creating with your hands. Through hands-on experiences in HVAC-R, Electrical, Carpentry, and Plumbing, we connect young people with real tools and real professionals. With the guidance of experienced tradespeople, students get the chance to explore their potential, build confidence, and discover the value of learning by doing. At the same time, we are building a strong nationwide network of mentors who are equipped to inspire, guide, and develop the next generation of skilled trades professionals.

What is a GRIT Camp?

GRIT Camps are one-day, hands-on experiences for students ages 12–17 to discover the skilled trades. Guided by experienced tradespeople, students explore real skills in HVAC, electrical, plumbing, and carpentry—working with actual tools in authentic settings like contractor shops or training facilities.

What skills do students learn?

Students learn real-world skills like safety practices, blueprint reading, tool use, carpentry, plumbing, brazing, and building electrical circuits—all through hands-on modules led by skilled trades professionals.

Who can host a GRIT Camp?

Contractors, skilled trades professionals, and trades educators can collaborate to host a GRIT Camp. Plan 10–16 weeks ahead. Camps serve up to 16 students, with no more than two students per assigned mentor, plus a floater and separate Education Lead. Mentor numbers depend on enrollment. Begin student recruitment 6–8 weeks before camp and close registration two weeks before camp. GRIT ships student items and participant badges 1–2 weeks before camp and sends reminders two weeks and 5–7 days before camp. A sample build is optional; the host decides whether and when to complete it and provides its materials.

How can I get involved?

- **Host a Camp:** We'll help you plan and launch a GRIT Camp in your area.
- **Mentor or Volunteer:** Skilled tradespeople can guide students throughout the camp. To ensure a safe and productive learning environment, all mentors must pass a background check, read the camp guide, and complete the free, approximately three-hour course. Target course completion six weeks before camp; the firm deadline is three weeks before camp. If required training is incomplete then, postpone and notify students and parents. Dates may be confirmed before training is complete. The Host and Host Facilitator are encouraged to take the course.
- **[Donate](#):** Contributions directly support tools, materials, and program expansion.

How can I stay connected or get in touch?

Visit www.thegritfoundation.com to join our mailing list.

Email us at: Leilani@thegritfoundation.com

