



Construction & Maintenance Education Foundation CONTRACTOR/OWNER INVESTMENT PROGRAM



OVERVIEW

The Contractor/Owner Investment Program (COIP) began as a result of the visionary leadership of the 2001 CMEF Board of Trustees who accepted and met the challenge of sustaining CMEF and community craft training well into the future. These leaders have paved a way for the construction and maintenance industry to not only meet the needs of our workforce today, but those of generations beyond.

Reason and Logic

CMEF was established by the Member companies of the Associated Builders and Contractors - Greater Houston Chapter to provide craft training for the entire construction industry. These companies believed that the shortage of skilled construction workers could be alleviated by an increase in recruiting and training. Further, the Members and other industry affiliates recognized the value of craft workforce development in areas of safety, quality, and productivity as well as the fact that the training of the Houston area workforce required more than the efforts of individual construction companies. Therefore, they determined that a common training program, administered through a chosen association, ABC/CMEF, was better suited to meet the demands of the industry for the following reasons:

- (a) a community training program can more effectively cater to the mobile nature of the workforce.
- (b) a community training program allows for a combining of resources and, therefore, increased value based on the quantity of scale.
- (c) a community training program can ensure standardized curriculum and continuity of delivery regardless of the employer.
- (d) a community training program makes it possible to share the cost of training given the fact that companies employ workers from the same skilled labor pool.

For the above reasons and others, those Contractors who elect to invest in the Association's community training program can benefit from a reduced cost of services. Finally, only ABC member contractors have the opportunity to participate in this voluntary program. Non- ABC Members may elect to participate through a COIPA 3 Agreement.

Ultimate Goal

All parties who take advantage of the community craft training programs supported by CMEF must recognize their role in maintaining a high quality, well-trained workforce. ABC members, in particular, must take the lead in demonstrating their commitment to training by directly investing in the training provided via this – their – association, the Greater Houston Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors and its educational affiliate, the Construction and Maintenance Education Foundation.