

Ocean County Vocational Technical School

Buy Local, Hire Local

Sharing Success Stories



Student: Joseph Rupp

OCVTS Program: Welding

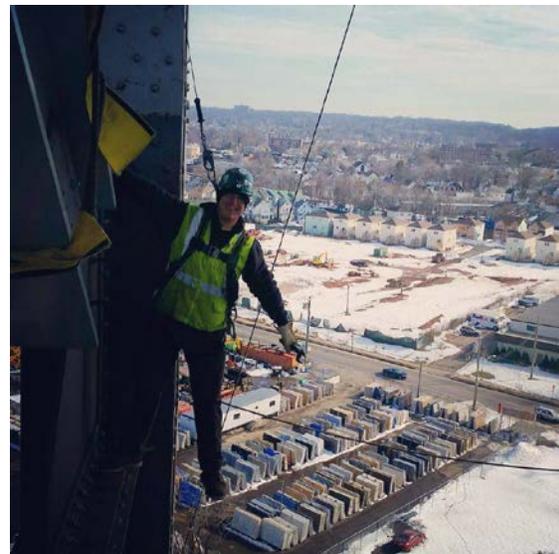
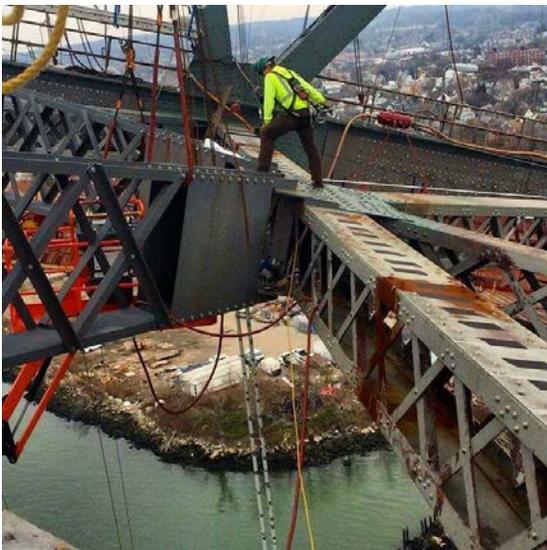
Instructor: James Mansfield

Employer: Ironworkers Local #11, Bloomfield, NJ

Class of: 2004
Center: Toms River

In Joe's own words...After serving in the Marine Corps, I struggled trying to figure out what I wanted to do in life. I went to college for a year, decided it was not the path I wanted to take and dropped out. I then got a job in construction with a good company, with good people, but I was working from paycheck to paycheck and not progressing in life. That is when I decided to contact James Mansfield, my welding teacher at the Toms River Center. Mr. Mansfield was the best teacher that I ever had! His class is the most comprehensive all around welding program out there. He teaches every process (stick, tig, and mig) that I have ever heard of and some that I have not (submerged arc and seismic). He also teaches fabrication of every material you could use out in the field. When he assigns you a project to build, he always chooses one that requires you to use logic, as well as your imagination.

Mr. Mansfield always tries to stay abreast of what is happening in the industry because of his numerous contacts. He strives to let his students, both past and present, know what is going to happen in the future. He informed me that Local #11 Ironworkers were hiring and what to do to get hired. I have been working with Local #11 ever since! The Ironworkers Union, Local #11 is always fighting for us to get the wages we deserve. They also provide you with health benefits that are second to none and an amazing retirement plan. Local #11 is always looking for more work for us so that when one project is completed you can go back to the hall knowing that you will be sent back out quickly onto a new project.



“Joseph Rupp was one of the most dedicated and self-motivated students that was enrolled in the welding program at OCVTS. To see Joe's life grow over the years from student, to US Marine, to union ironworker and welder using the skills he learned from OCVTS makes all of us so very proud of him,” stated James Mansfield. By looking at the above pictures, we could say that Joe has reached new heights in his career.