



Deconstruction Academy

Rethos, a historic preservation non-profit, is a recipient of the Statewide Sustainable Building & Materials Management Grant through the **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)**. Through this grant, Rethos is creating sixteen on-demand, digital modules to train deconstruction professionals. Ten of these modules will expand on *Introduction to Deconstruction* textbook from national non-profit **Build Reuse**. Six additional modules, three on policy and three on entrepreneurship, will be added to this core curriculum.



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Recruitment and Curriculum Timeline

Recruitment

Rethos is relying on counties, workforce development programs, and those in the construction industry to spread the word about this opportunity. Rethos will provide a marketing packet to aid in this promotion. This program is open to current tradespeople looking to add to their skill set or make a career change.

- **Identify Site Host and Cohort Recruitment:**
August 2026 - November 2026
- **Cohort Application Period:** September 2026 - November 2026
- **Cohort Announcement:** December 2026

Deconstruction Academy Cohort Timeline

Curriculum: participants will complete the on-demand modules in early 2027

- **Timeline:** asynchronous with regular deadlines between January – March 2027

On-site Training: participants will complete a week of hands-on deconstruction training at a construction site after successfully passing the modules

- **Timeline:** between March – May 2027
estimate depending on start of construction season

Curriculum Publication

Modules will be published on Rethos' chosen learning management platform (TBD) on a rolling basis between October 2026 – February 2027. Rethos will email interested parties (such as counties across Minnesota, construction companies) the links once the curriculum goes live.

Core Modules (10 Modules):

- **Modules 1–3:** October 2026
- **Modules 4–6:** November 2026
- **Modules 7–10:** December 2026

Policy & Entrepreneurship Modules (6 Modules):

- **Policy Modules (3):** January 2027
- **Entrepreneurship Modules (3):** February 2027



Deconstruction Academy Costs

Curriculum Costs

Using sixteen modules, this pilot deconstruction training program will recruit twenty individuals across Minnesota interested in the deconstruction industry. Priority will be given to certified contractors looking to further develop their skills.

Rethos' pilot Deconstruction Academy will be offered at market rate.

Total Cost: \$1,450 per participant

- **Curriculum:** \$450 per participant
- **On-site Training:** \$1,000 per participant

Interested parties can also purchase modules separate from the Deconstruction Academy, with modules available for purchase both individually and as packaged lessons.

Full Curriculum (16 Modules): \$450

Core Modules (10 Modules):
\$25 per module
\$225 for all 10 modules

Policy & Entrepreneurship Modules (6 Modules):
\$50 per module
\$125 for all 3 policy or entrepreneurship modules
\$225 for all 10 modules

Scholarship Availability

These scholarships will fully cover program costs (including a travel stipend) for students based on need. An additional application will be required.

Scholarships available: 5



After the grant period ends (summer 2027), interested parties can contact Rethos directly in order to organize a Deconstruction Academy specifically to their locality.

For more information on the Deconstruction Academy pilot program, please contact **Continuing Education Manager Anna Schmiel** at anna@rethos.org.