



JUMP START

A W A R D



Encouraging the Next Generation of Safe Excavators

Attention BOCES, trade school, and high school students in Upstate New York! Are you graduating in 2026 and intending to work in construction, excavation or a related field? Consider applying for the 2026 Jump Start Award from UDig NY.

This cash award is an initiative of UDig NY's Damage Prevention Councils (DPCs). At least eight \$500 awards will be available across UDig NY's DPC regions in 2026.

Who can apply?

BOCES, trade school, and high school students who live and study in Upstate New York, and are graduating in 2026.

When can I apply?

The online application ends on Friday, March 6, 2026.

How do I apply?

1. Visit UDigNY.org/jump-start or scan the QR code
2. Complete the **FREE** student version of UDig NY's Certified Excavator Program
3. Fill out and submit the easy online application form



\$500 Cash

Attention Professionals

Is your company interested in sponsoring a Jump Start Award in your region? Reach out to your local Field Representative for details at UDigNY.org/field-reps



Questions?

Reach out to your local UDig NY Field Representative by visiting UDigNY.org/field-reps

UDIGNY.ORG

Students Get

Certified for FREE!



Why become a Certified Excavator?

UDig NY's Certified Excavator in Safe Digging Best Practices Program (CEP) is the industry standard for excavation safety training. Getting certified also meets a legal requirement for an excavator to work for a local government or facility operator, or their hired contractors.

As part of UDig NY's commitment to ensuring the next generation of excavation and construction professionals have the knowledge they need to dig safely, we have released a special version of the CEP, available for free to BOCES and trade school students.



Build your résumé and stand out to employers



Learn critical safety skills



Qualify to apply for cash through UDig NY's Jump Start Award

To learn more, visit UDigNY.org/students or scan the QR code

