Construction Trades Safety Checklist

Inspector Name: _____ Date: _____

Location/Classroom: _____

Administrative & Program Requirements

[ ] Instructor is certified by the apprenticeship program (renewed within the last 2 years).
[ ] Work is authorized by a licensed contractor or certified instructor.
[ ] Applicable Woodshop or Welding safety checklists are available for shop/portable projects.
[ ] SWPPP (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan) and Building Permits are posted on-site (residential).
[ ] SPED students are working within their documented accommodations/disabilities.

General Site Safety & Housekeeping

[ ] First Aid Kit is fully stocked and readily accessible.
[ ] Competent adult is present and actively documenting frequent inspections.
[ ] Work area is kept neat, clean, and free of slip/trip hazards.
[ ] Boards, loose nails, and general debris are cleared regularly.
[ ] Waste containers are provided and used consistently.
[ ] Potable drinking water and toilet facilities are accessible.
[ ] Fire extinguishers are inspected, operational, and accessible.

Strict Restrictions:

[ ] Students are NOT permitted in trenches.
[ ] Students are NOT exposed to fall hazards.
[ ] Electrical tie-ins are completed *only* by a certified electrician.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

[ ] Safety glasses worn by all personnel.
[ ] Hard hats worn in required areas.
[ ] Sturdy, closed-toe shoes worn at all times.
[ ] Activity-appropriate work gloves available and used when required.

Hazardous Materials & Fire Prevention

[ ] All hazardous materials are properly labeled and stored in a secure area.
[ ] Master log of all on-site hazardous materials is up to date.
[ ] Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are accessible for all site chemicals.
[ ] Flammable materials are stored in designated, approved cabinets/containers.

Electrical Safety

[ ] GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters) installed and operational on all temporary power sources.
[ ] Temporary electrical stands and terminal boxes exposed to weather have watertight covers.
[ ] All unused openings in cabinet boxes, panels, and fittings are closed.
[ ] Extension cords are in good condition, with continuous grounds and no exposed/bare wires.
[ ] Flexible cords and cables are protected from damage and routed away from walkways.

Ladders & Elevated Work

[ ] Extension ladders extend at least 36 inches (3 feet) above the landing surface.
[ ] Ladders are secured at top/bottom to prevent slipping, sliding, or tipping.
[ ] Ladders are inspected daily; damaged units are tagged out of service immediately.
[ ] Stepladders are used fully open; standing on top two rungs is prohibited.

Scaffolding

[ ] Inspected daily prior to use.
[ ] Erected on sound, rigid footings.
[ ] Fully planked standing surfaces with sound, sturdy materials.
[ ] Guardrails, intermediate rails, and toe boards installed on all open sides.
[ ] Tied off/anchored to the structure per safety requirements.
[ ] Safe access ladder or stairs provided.
[ ] Tools and loose materials kept away from edges; overhead protections set up for workers below.

Hand & Power Tools

[ ] Tools inspected regularly; broken/damaged tools locked out or taken out of service.
[ ] All manufacturer safety guards remain installed and fully functional.
[ ] Tools are used strictly for their designed purpose.
[ ] Saw blades are kept sharp and replaced as needed.
[ ] Proper workbenches or sawhorses are used (never cut on unstable surfaces).
[ ] Tools are returned to secure storage when not in use.

Material Handling & Storage

[ ] Materials are neatly stacked, secured, and stored to prevent sliding or collapse.
[ ] Safe lifting practices (legs bent, back straight, team lifts for heavy items) are enforced.

Welding & Cutting Operations

[ ] Compressed gas cylinders are stored upright and chained/secured against falling.
[ ] Proper separation distance maintained between fuel gas cylinders and oxygen cylinders.
[ ] Gas hoses and regulators inspected and in good condition.
[ ] Specialized welding/cutting PPE (helmets, leathers, shade lenses) available and worn.