



# WHAT ARE YOU UP FOR?

## MY LIFE AS



### A RIGGER: MATTHEW PETROU

Matthew Petrou has bachelors’ degrees in both finance and business marketing, but the life’s work he’s ultimately chosen is construction. The ability to work closely with others, earn a good living, be active on the job, watch structures go up, continually learn new skills, and advance within a company all drew him to a career in construction. Matthew is a rigger now, but he knows that his company—Jacobs—offers the opportunity to become certified in other crafts, should his interest or financial goals change.

More than \$90 billion in construction contracts were awarded in Houston over the past five years, and that type of investment is expected to continue.

“If you come out here and apply yourself, you’re going to be capable of some great things in some very short periods of time,” Matthew said.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

Certifications such as NCCER, on-the-job training

#### SALARY:

\$52,000 to \$72,000

#### CAREER PATH:

Rigger

#### ADVANCEMENT:

Rigging foreman, rigging general foreman; with crane certification—crane operator, crane foreman, crane general foremen, crane and rigging superintendent, construction manager, site manager, project manager

#### TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

Precision and a high attention to detail are essential in this role. Opportunities exist for those who want to keep learning and growing to become superintendents or project managers. “If you’re graduating high school, and you’re at a standstill, and you really don’t want to invest in college, this is a fantastic way to build your future,” Matthew said.

#### KEY CAREER RESPONSIBILITIES:

“Pick up heavy objects, move them from one place to another and, then, put them back down,” Matthew said. All while watching the line of the building, deflection in the line, and the potential for the object to hit something around it. Assemble rigging to lift and move equipment and material to the construction project. Direct crane operator or hoisting engineer moving loads to ensure safety of workers and materials using hand signals, loudspeaker, two-way radio or telephone. Assemble and disassemble cranes.