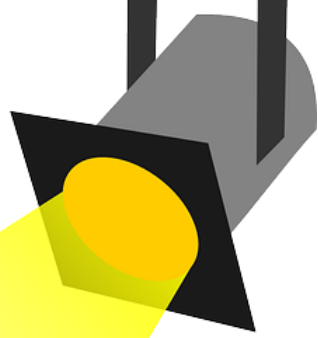




# Worker Spotlight



**Name: Patricia Contreras**  
**Craft/Classification: Apprentice Period 3—Plumbers and Fitters Local 761**

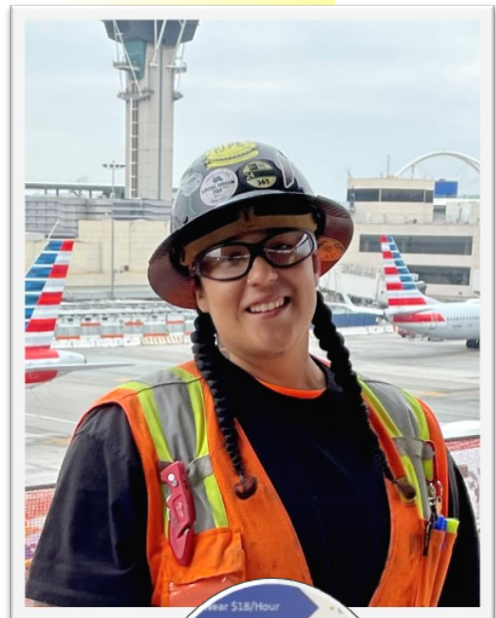
## “There’s Nothing Too Difficult”

Patricia Contreras, 3<sup>rd</sup> year apprentice at Plumbers & Fitters Local 761, was part of HireLAX Cohort 8; one of the first classes the program had during the Covid pandemic. She endured 8 weeks of training in a parking garage in late winter. She knew she wanted a real career, and she was willing to put in whatever effort it took. Before becoming a construction worker, she had to work two jobs to pay her bills. Now she is saving money to get married and buy a house!

“HireLAX painted the BIG picture for us, motivated us; leaving us with no choice but to develop mentally, emotionally, and physically, in order to succeed. I have a new life, a completely new life. Once your morals and character change, there’s nothing that’s too difficult. It’s all about reaching that next step.”

“To LAWA, thank you! It’s not the end of the relationship, it’s just the beginning.” Patricia has helped several family members, friends, and neighbors to enter the program. She regularly volunteers at HireLAX Orientations, sharing her story and inspiring the next cohort of students.

“To the contractors, we’re ready. Let’s go! Help us help you. That’s what it’s about.”



If you are interested in hiring Patricia or sponsoring a new apprentice, please reach out to :

**Christina Watkins, HireLAX Manager**  
at [cwatkins@lawa.org](mailto:cwatkins@lawa.org) or (323) 217-4976