

# Chicago Advanced Manufacturing Training Alliance Career Pathway for Production Workers

## Partner Providers

Illinois Institute of Technology  
(Bachelor of Manufac. Tech.)

Learning On-the-Job +  
Bachelor of Applied  
Technology

Tooling and Manufacturing Assoc.  
Daley College (A.S.)

Learning On-the-Job +  
AAS or Apprenticeship and/or  
Further Certification

West Side Tech (Adv.  
Certificate)  
Humboldt Park Vocational

Learning On-the-Job +  
Advanced Certification

Instituto Progreso Latino – West Side Tech  
(Manufacturing Bridge)  
Jane Addams Resource Corp (Metal-  
working Skills Program)  
Greater West Town (Wood Working)

Tech Prep Bridge Training

Instituto Progreso Latino (VESL)  
West Side Tech (Career Prep 1 & 2)

Workplace Basics  
(VESL / VABE)

Employer & Employee Services  
North Lawndale Employment  
Network  
STRIVE Chicago

Intensive Work Readiness +  
Follow-up Support

Technical  
Supervisor/Sales  
(\$50K+ per year)

Skilled Technician/  
Journeyman  
(\$30K+ per year)

Entry-Level  
Technician/  
Apprentice  
(\$22K+ per year)

Entry-Level  
Skilled Jobs  
(\$9+ per hour)

Semi-Skilled Jobs  
(\$6 - \$9 per hour)

Laborer Jobs  
(minimum wage)

Source/Contact: Davis Jenkins, University of Illinois at Chicago, [www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/](http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/gci/).

**Chicago Advanced Manufacturing Training Alliance  
Career Pathway for Production Workers  
Sample Job Titles, Wages and Qualifications by Job Level**

Job Category	Sample Job Titles	Median Hourly Wage*	Minimum Training/ Qualifications
Technical Supervisor	Shift Supervisor Team/Group Leader	Salaried NA	Manufacturing experience Technical training Strong leader and communicator Bachelor's degree preferred
Skilled Technician/ Journeyman	CNC Programmer/Machinist Designer, CAD Electrician Machine Builder Machinist, Journeyman Maintenance Machinist Maintenance Mechanic Mold Maker, Journeyman Model Maker Tool and Die Maker	\$21.00 \$22.47 \$20.03 \$19.45 \$18.00 \$18.10 \$17.20 \$22.40 \$20.15 \$22.32	Apprenticeship and /or two-year degree 4+ yrs. Experience
Entry-level Technician/ Apprentice	Apprentice CNC Machinist Draftsman, CAD Estimator Inspector, Tool Machinist Maintenance Worker Welder, ARC/MIG/TIG	\$11.00 (12 mos) \$16.66 \$15.00 \$13.55 \$15.46 \$15.33 \$14.75 \$14.00	High school diploma or GED >10 <sup>th</sup> grade math and reading Strong problem-solver Strong applied technical fundamentals Strong blueprint reading and metrology Familiar with manufacturing business principles Manufacturing experience a plus
Entry-level Skilled	Assembler, Skilled Inspector, In Process Grinder, Surface Material Handler Set-Up Operator Shipping/Receiving Clerk Stock Clerk Utility Worker Welder, Spot	\$13.37 \$11.88 \$12.71 \$10.25 \$9.00-\$14.65 \$11.38 \$12.10 \$8.03 \$10.01	Strong work habits > 8 <sup>th</sup> grade math and reading Good problem-solver and communicator Basic blueprint reading and measurement Familiar with machine operation
Semi-skilled	Assembler Forklift Driver Operator (Semi-skilled) Packer	\$9.08 \$8.50 \$7.00-\$9.00 \$8.00	Strong work habits 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade literacy Manual dexterity ( for Assemblers)
Unskilled	Laborer	\$6.25	Reliable Heavy lifting

\*Source: Tooling and Manufacturing Association, "1/1/00 Wage Survey," and Crain's Chicago Business, "2000 Wage and Salary Survey."

## Chicago Advanced Manufacturing Training Alliance Career Pathway for Production Workers Program Requirements, Content and Goals by Level

Program Level	Minimum Requirements	Program Content / Features	Targeted Outcomes
Advanced Certificate Industry Certifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>\geq 9^{\text{th}}</math> grade math and reading</li> <li>• HS diploma or GED</li> <li>• Basic technical skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applied manufacturing fundamentals</li> <li>• Manufacturing business principles</li> <li>• Project learning</li> <li>• Career exposure/planning</li> <li>• Career success skills</li> <li>• Intensive GED preparation (as needed)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Employment:</i> technician/ apprentice positions</li> <li>• <i>Education:</i> 2-year college associate degree programs, apprenticeships, advanced professional certification</li> </ul>
Tech Prep Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>7.5^{\text{th}} - 9^{\text{th}}</math> grade math and reading</li> <li>• Good conversational English</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workplace communication, math, computer applications in context</li> <li>• Manufacturing technical fundamentals (blueprints, metrology, and machine operation)</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Manufacturing business basics</li> <li>• Manufacturing career exploration</li> <li>• Test taking strategies</li> <li>• Intensive GED prep (as needed)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Employment:</i> entry-level skilled positions (e.g., set-up operator)</li> <li>• <i>Education:</i> community college advanced certificate programs</li> </ul>
Workplace Basics (VESL / VABE_	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>6^{\text{th}} - 7.5^{\text{th}}</math> grade math and reading or intermediate ESL</li> <li>• Stable work history</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workplace basics: communication, math, problem-solving integrated with instruction in workplace success skills</li> <li>• Job success strategies</li> <li>• Test taking strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Employment:</i> higher paying semi-skilled jobs (e.g., operator, assembler) with participation in teams/cells</li> <li>• <i>Education:</i> Pre-Tech Bridge</li> </ul>
Intensive Work Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to work to subsist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help accessing income supports</li> <li>• Drug treatment</li> <li>• Transitional jobs</li> <li>• Intensive work readiness preparation</li> <li>• Intensive follow-up with clients and employers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Employment:</i> Lower-level semi-skilled job</li> <li>• <i>Education:</i> Workplace Basics</li> </ul>