

**If this brochure doesn't make you confident in manufacturing careers, have a conversation with a local manufacturer. Tell them the action steps suggested in this brochure and hear their response. They will validate the need for your students with those aspirations and skill sets and express how much more they will value your school as a result. Your students have an opportunity to thrive professionally and succeed quickly in manufacturing. It is your responsibility to educate your students of these opportunities and let them know that employers want their talent.**



### Take Action Now

Guidance and career counselors can take the following steps to be proactive with this cause:

#### Get Educated:

- Understand the educational pathways available in Connecticut through our Technical High School System and Community Colleges, and begin to provide this information to students simultaneously with four year opportunities.
- Explore industry certifications using the Developing Skilled Workers toolkit for educators (available at [www.ctdidi.com](http://www.ctdidi.com)) and understand their value against common post-secondary degrees.
- Attend a workshop, or arrange a visit to a local manufacturing facility to understand what modern manufacturing is all about.

#### Get Involved:

- Find out more about Connecticut. Dream It. Do It. October Manufacturing Month. Opportunities for your students could include attendance at a "Manufacturing Mania" event, a visit to a local facility's Open House, or a presentation for your students by Connecticut. Dream It. Do It. staff or a local manufacturer. Learn more at [www.ctdidi.com](http://www.ctdidi.com) or [www.mfgday.com](http://www.mfgday.com).
- Connect with Connecticut. Dream It. Do It. and find out how we can support your Career Fairs/Expos, provide in-school, after school and summer programming for students, or professional development workshops for educators.

#### Get Proactive:

- Request literature from your local community college about their manufacturing programs and make it available to your students.
- Explore credentialing curriculum that could easily be integrated into your career preparation programs. You can learn more at [www.themanufacturinginstitute.org](http://www.themanufacturinginstitute.org) by checking out Skills Certification, or request information about credentialing from Connecticut. Dream It. Do It.

Connect with us at [www.ctdidi.com](http://www.ctdidi.com), on our Connecticut Dream It. Do It. Facebook page, or through our Twitter handle: @CTDreamItDoIt.

**COUNSELOR (NOUN): A TRAINED ADVISER OR MENTOR ON ACADEMIC AND CAREER READINESS.**

**Learn more about providing career readiness in manufacturing fields**

# GUIDING THEIR PATHWAYS



Counselors across the nation are one of the greatest influencers of student pathways. They have an intimate knowledge of their student's abilities and must present options that will allow them to thrive.

However, not every student's path is meant to have a four year university or college as its end destination. For many, post-secondary and career preparation success can be achieved at a community college or technical college for a quarter of the costs. Technical pathways end in great career opportunities that are abundantly available, and students deserve to know about those pathways.

**INTERESTED IN INSTITUTIONS NEAR YOU THAT PROVIDE GREAT TECHNICAL TRAINING? CHECK OUT THE MANUFACTURING INSTITUTE'S M-LIST TO FIND TRAINING PROVIDERS NEAR YOU.**

## MANUFACTURING CAREERS ARE IN HIGH DEMAND...

In 2013, the average manufacturing worker in Connecticut earned \$95,671 annually, including pay and benefits. The average worker in other industries in Connecticut earned \$57,768.

The average entry-level CNC operators in Connecticut earns from **\$25,000 TO \$40,000** a year, with benefits and overtime available through many employers.

The average experienced CNC programmers in Connecticut can earn more than **\$70,000 A YEAR** with benefits and overtime available through many employers.



## IT'S A WHOLE NEW PATHWAY.

Preparing for a career in manufacturing is nothing like generations past. Training is now easily accessible, comes at reasonable costs, and facilitates career growth with clear pathways to advanced skills. Below you will find the advanced manufacturing competency model. Great community colleges and technical colleges use this model and industry certifications to provide students with the greatest opportunity to success. Students who enter manufacturing can start with brushing up on their soft skills and excel to industry specific skills that will make them a valuable resource to hiring employers.

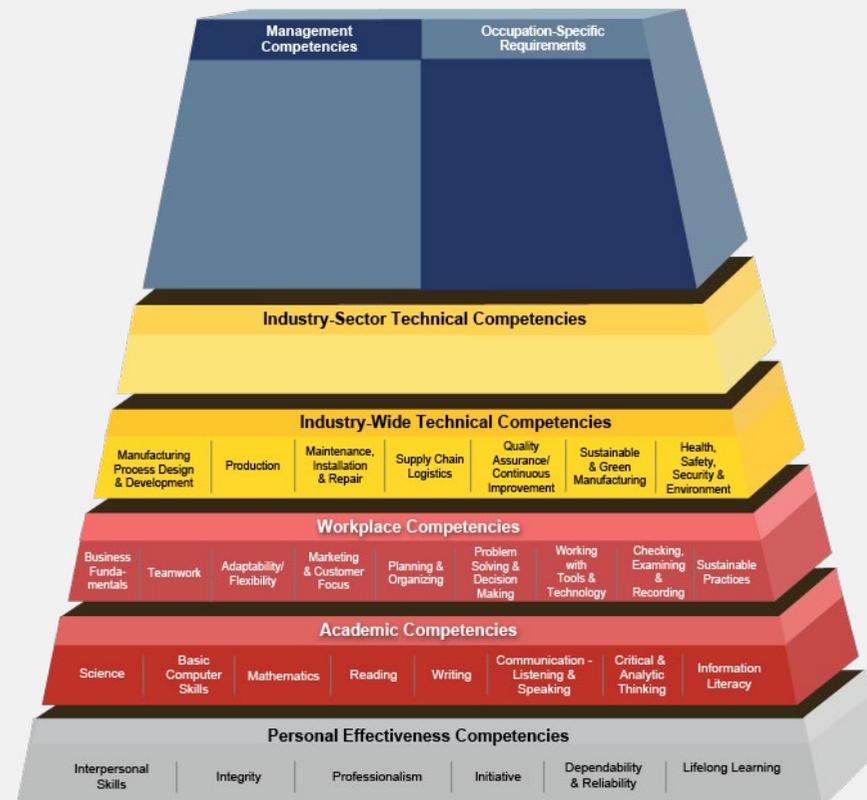
The competency model aligns directly with The Manufacturing Institute's Skills Certification System which is a collection of industry credentials that validate the exact skills sets required by manufacturers for occupations that range from welder to machinist to engineer. Students can begin earning these certifications and gaining the attention of employers in high school.

Want to learn more about certifications and career pathways? Check out the Developing Skilled Workers toolkit for educators and put your student on the path to success.



**TELL YOUR STUDENTS: THE BEST PAY COMES FROM MANUFACTURERS.**

Manufacturers on average provide the highest compensation to employees than any other industry across the country. At an average of \$33.93 an hour, or \$77,000, worth of salary and benefits, the value of manufacturing employees are made clear by employers. If you work hard and are willing to learn, the money is there to be made.



## EMPLOYERS ARE PAYING FOR QUALIFIED TALENT.

Median pay for CNC mechanist is close to **\$40,000 A YEAR.**

A quality assurance technician earns an average of **\$44,511 A YEAR.** ...A quality engineer makes an average of \$67,939.

The average pay for a welder is over **\$17 AN HOUR** ...more than \$35,000 a year.

### CONNECTICUT MANUFACTURING JOBS

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Mechanical engineering technician     | \$55,000 |
| Maintenance technician                | \$42,000 |
| Logistics analyst                     | \$74,000 |
| Advanced manufacturing machinist      | \$43,000 |
| General maintenance and repair worker | \$42,000 |