Advanced Manufacturing Registered Apprenticeship



Advanced manufacturing drives the U.S. economy, powering critical sectors such as aerospace, automotive, biotechnology, shipbuilding, semiconductors, and nuclear energy. While workforce shortages can limit manufacturers' ability to expand, innovate, and compete, Registered Apprenticeship (RA) is a proven workforce strategy that helps manufacturers recruit, train, upskill, and retain skilled workers.

In 2025, there were over 97,500 apprentices served in advanced manufacturing occupations, a 20 percent increase over the past 5 years.[1] As technology, automation, and Super Intelligence (SI) reshape the industry, RA helps employers build the talent needed for today's production environments and future growth.

APPRENTICESHIPUSA

A National Priority

1 Million+

Administration goal for active apprentices nationwide

$35.8 Million

DOL investments in incentive funding for manufacturing RA expansion

Industry Intermediary Support

DOL funded advanced manufacturing experts who provide free RA technical assistance nationwide

RA is an industry-driven career pathway that helps employers develop skilled workers through paid, hands-on experience, mentorship, progressive wages, and classroom instruction. Programs are approved by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) or a State Apprenticeship Agency and lead to a portable, nationally recognized credential.

Through RA, manufacturing companies:

HIRE & DEVELOP SKILLED TALENT: Recruit new workers or upskill current employees for skilled roles.

DELIVER HANDS-ON TRAINING: Train apprentices through structured, supervised work experience.

PROVIDE TECHNICAL TRAINING: Build job-specific knowledge through classroom or technical instruction.

REWARD PROGRESS: Increase wages as apprentices build skills and experience.

DEVELOP CREDENTIALED TALENT: Build a skilled workforce with nationally recognized credentials.

RETAIN SKILLED WORKERS: Achieve 93% employment retention among apprentices after completion.

EARN A RETURN: Employers report earning a 40%–90% return on investment in RA—equivalent to $1.40–$1.90 in benefits for every $1 invested.



Sample of RA Occupations

- CNC Machine Operator
- Mechanical Engineering Technician
- Mechatronics Technician
- Precision Machinist
- Tool and Die Maker
- Industrial Manufacturing Technician
- Maintenance Mechanic
- Robotics Technician
- Quality Technician

Scan the QR code to learn more about RA

American Manufacturing Apprenticeship Incentive Fund

The nationwide Pay-for-Performance Incentive Payments Program helps employers offset the costs of hiring, training, and upskilling apprentices in advanced manufacturing RA programs.

▶ $3,500 PER ELIGIBLE APPRENTICE FOR RA SPONSORS ◀

Administered by the Arkansas Department of Commerce with DOL funding, eligibility and application details are available on Apprenticeship.gov Active Awards. Available following successful completion of a 90-day retention period.

- Supports **newly enrolled apprentices, incumbent workers advancing their skills, and eligible former apprentices entering new RA programs** in manufacturing.
- RA sponsors receive incentive payments and **pass the majority of funds to participating employers.**
- Applications are accepted on a **rolling basis while funding is available**.



"The American Manufacturing Apprenticeship Incentive Fund has been beneficial for Highland Machine Works as it's helping us continue the apprentice program we developed. As training costs continue to climb, AMAIF's support is helping us offset those costs and continue to build long-term manufacturing talent."

Jason Duke | Business Development Manager, Highland Machine Works





Let's Build Your Apprenticeship Future Together

The **Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Collaborative (AMAC), powered by the Manhattan Strategy Group LLC (MSG)**, is a DOL industry intermediary for advanced manufacturing, helping manufacturers turn workforce needs into RA opportunities.

We help employers:

- **Customize RA programs** to organizational needs.
- **Develop and register programs** with hands-on support.
- **Connect to existing programs and sponsors** to get started faster.
- **Access training partners** to support on-the-job learning.
- **Refer sponsors** to Pay-for-Performance incentives.
- **Launch and expand programs** as workforce needs grow.

AT NO COST TO EMPLOYERS

Contact AMAC
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[1] Apprentice numbers come from the Office of Apprenticeship's Registered Apprenticeship Partners Information Data System (RAPIDS).