Career Pathways in Manufacturing

Are you interested in welding, building electronics and machines or operating presses and computer-controlled machines? These essential jobs have some of the largest impact on the economy, including jobs in mechatronics, a fast-growing field that spans robotics, artificial intelligence systems, and complex computerized electrical machines.

Welding and manufacturing jobs are in high demand across Virginia, and employers are looking for qualified, credentialed applicants to fill open vacancies. The manufacturing industry has lots of room for advancement, with entry-level positions requiring a short-term training program and certification, with more advanced positions requiring multiple certifications, an applied associate degree or advanced degrees.

Local employers who hire CCWA graduates in this field include: Westrock, Philip-Morris, Victory Packaging, S Kings Home Style Foods, DuPont, OE Performance Foods, International Paper, Eaton, Nestle, Niagara Bottling, Mondel, BrightView, and Honeywell, among others. CCWA Career Services can help connect you to local employers.

To learn about your training and educational options and to find out what supportive services you may qualify for, visit https://ccwatraining.org.
## Career Pathways in Manufacturing Job Details

### Job Title | 3-Year Job Forecast Growth (Virginia) | Supportive Resources | Training, Educational Programs & Accreditation Information
---|---|---|---
**Maintenance Helper** | 4% locally, 16% nationally | G3, Fastforward, Virginia Ready Job placement through CCWA | Manufacturing Technician (MT) training and credential
**Welder** | 5% | G3 | Welding CSC
**Manual/CNC Machinist** | 4% | G3 | Basic Precision Machining CSC or Computer Numerical Control CSC
**Electrician** | 8% | G3 | Industrial Electricity CSC or Residential Electricity CSC
**Mechanical/Mechatronics Technician** | 4% | G3 | Mechanical Engineering Technology AAS or MET, Mechatronics Specialization AAS
**Industrial Mechanic** | 4% locally, 16% nationally | G3 | Mechanical Maintenance CSC
**Senior Industrial Mechanic** | 4% locally, 16% nationally | G3 | Mechanical Maintenance CSC
**Senior Welder** | 5% | G3 | Welding CSC
**Senior Machinist** | 4% | G3 | Precision Machining Technology Certificate
**Senior Electrician** | 8% | G3 | Electrical Engineering Technology AAS
**Senior Mechanical/ Mechatronics Technician/ Technologist** | 4% | G3 | Mechanical Engineering Technology AAS or MET, Mechatronics Specialization AAS
**First-line Supervisor of Production Workers** | 0% | G3 | Advanced Manufacturing Management CSC
**Maintenance Manager/ Supervisor** | 4% locally, 16% nationally | G3 | Technical Studies AAS
**Welding Supervisor** | 5% | G3 | Technical Studies AAS
**Machining Supervisor** | 4% | G3 | Technical Studies AAS
**Electrical Supervisor** | 8% | G3 | Technical Studies AAS
**Mechanical/Mechatronics Supervisor** | 4% | G3 | Mechanical Engineering Technology AAS or MET, Mechatronics Specialization AAS
**Manufacturing Manager** | 0% | G3 | Advanced Manufacturing Technology AAS

### Descriptions

#### WELDER
- **35,000-38,000**
- Uses hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand-sanding, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

#### WELDING SUPERVISOR
- **$47,000-57,000**
- Oversees workers operating equipment, measuring dimensions to verify compliance and cutting industrial material for fabrication or processing.

#### ELECTRICIAN
- **$38,000-44,000**
- Installs, maintains, and repairs electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensures that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service electric street lights, industrial systems, or electrical control systems.

#### SENIOR ELECTRICIAN
- **$52,000-62,000**
- Installs, maintains, and repairs electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensures that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service electric street lights, industrial systems, or electrical control systems.

#### MECHANICAL/MECHATRONICS TECHNICIAN
- **$40,000-52,000**
- Mechanical Technicians modify, develop, test, and adjust unmanned, automated, servomechanical and electro-mechanical equipment.

#### MECHANICAL/MECHATRONICS TECHNICIAN/TECHNOLOGIST
- **$41,000-55,000**
- Senior Mechanical Technicians modify, develop, test, and adjust unmanned, automated, servomechanical and electro-mechanical equipment.

#### INDUSTRIAL MECHANIC
- **$35,000-40,000**
- Repair, install, adjust, or maintain industrial machinery or refinery and pipeline distribution systems.

#### FIRST-LINE SUPERVISOR OF PRODUCTION WORKERS
- **$54,000-65,000**
- Directly supervises and coordinates the activities of production and operating workers, such as inspectors, precision workers, machine setters and operators, assemblers, fabricators, and plant and system operators.

#### MANUFACTURING MANAGER
- **$90,000-115,000**
- Directly supervises and coordinates the activities of production and operating workers, such as inspectors, precision workers, machine setters and operators, assemblers, fabricators, and plant and system operators.