

# Careers in Manufacturing

## Career Options:

**Machine Operator:** Operates small or large equipment.

**Electrician Apprentice:** Learn the theory of electricity and assist electricians by running conduit, wiring switches, receptacles, and light fixtures.

**Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic:** Install, service, and repair heating, cooling and refrigeration systems in residential, commercial and industrial buildings.

**Machine Tool Operator:** Operate and metalworking and plastics machines that produce parts.

**Industrial Electronics Technician:** Assemble, install, operate, maintain, and repair electrical/electronic equipment used in business and industry.

**Tool and Die Maker:** Produce tools, dies, and special devices that enable machines to manufacture everything from clothing and furniture to heavy equipment and parts for aircraft.

## Skills and Abilities:

- Mechanical aptitude
- Good with hand and power tools
- Problem-solving and trouble-shooting
- Understand technical drawings, diagrams, graphs, and charts

Associate of Applied Science  
Industrial Electronics Technician  
Tool & Die Maker

Salary Range: \$16 - \$25/hr  
\$33,000 - \$51,000

Technical Certificate  
Electrician Apprentice  
Machine Tool Operator  
Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic

Salary Range: \$8 - \$19/hr  
\$18,000 - \$36,000

Certificate of Proficiency  
Machine Operator

Salary Range: \$8 - \$11/hr  
\$18,000 - \$24,000/yr

Adult Education  
Job Readiness  
Soft Skills Training

Assessment

Individual Career Plan

## Working Conditions:

- Usually work a standard 40-hour week, but may work evenings, weekends, shift work, or emergency call situations
- May work in uncomfortably hot or cold environments and in awkward and cramped positions
- May have to stand for long periods and lift heavy objects

## Earning Power\*

Machine Operator	\$18,000 - \$24,000
Electrician Apprentice	\$18,000 - \$26,000
Machine Tool Operator	\$20,000 - \$31,000
Air Conditioning Mechanic	\$31,000 - \$36,000
Industrial Electronics Tech.	\$33,000 - \$42,000
Tool & Die Maker	\$42,000 - \$51,000

\* Salary ranges are estimates only; actual salary may vary.

## For More Information:

If you'd like to know more about how to get started on a path to a new career, stop by our office at 2304 W. 29th Ave. in Pine Bluff, or give us a call at 870.535.6233.

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## Before You Begin:

### Assessment

Assessment of financial aid and support services needs, career interests and aptitudes assessment, and an academic skill assessment.

### Individual Career Plan

Develop an Individual Career Plan that serves as a road map with short and long-term goals and taking you from choosing a career to becoming employed to reaching your short and long-term career goals.

### Basic & Workplace Education

Some students may need to work on their basic and workplace education skills before starting a job or entering college.

A student's Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) score is used to determine the need for GED certification, Adult Education, Basic Skill Training, and WAGE certification.

### Portfolio Credit\*

Get a jump start on your education by turning your life and work experience into college credit. Students can earn up to 15 credits for technical courses identified with an (\*) for education and learning acquired outside the classroom.

The Career Options	The Money You Can Earn	The Training You'll Need
<p><b>The Career</b></p> <p>Machine Operator</p>	<p><b>The Money</b></p> <p>\$8 to \$11 an hour \$1,250 to \$2,000 per month \$18,000 - \$24,000 per year</p>	<p><b>The Training</b></p> <p>Earn a high school diploma Earn a Certificate of Proficiency Take courses in: Principles of Technology Manufacturing Processes</p>
<p><b>The Career</b></p> <p>Electrician Apprentice Machine Tool Operator Air Conditioning &amp; Refrigeration Mechanic</p>	<p><b>The Money</b></p> <p>\$16 to \$19 an hour \$2,700 to \$3,000 per month \$33,000 - \$36,000 per year</p>	<p><b>The Training</b></p> <p>Earn a Technical Certificate Take courses in: English Composition College Algebra AC/DC Fundamentals* Principles of Technology* Industrial Motor Control Basic Machine Tools and Equipment Maintenance Welding*</p>
<p><b>The Career</b></p> <p>Industrial Electronics Technician Tool &amp; Die Maker</p>	<p><b>The Money</b></p> <p>\$16 to \$25 an hour \$2,800 to \$4,000 per month \$33,000 - \$51,000 per year</p>	<p><b>The Training</b></p> <p>Earn an Associate of Applied Science Degree Take courses in: Industrial Safety Pneumatics &amp; Hydraulics Mechanical/Preventive Maintenance Procedure Electronic Drive Systems Intro To Quality Management/Improvement</p>