

How Maricopa Community Colleges Fuels Semiconductor Industry Growth

Maricopa Community Colleges currently offers 31 degree and certificate programs that either directly or indirectly support semiconductor career training and development.

Such programs include semiconductor manufacturing, offered at four colleges; engineering, offered at nine colleges; engineering technology, offered at one college; electrical technology, offered at one college; robotics and automated industrial technology, offered at two colleges; water and wastewater treatment, offered at one college; and construction trades, offered at four colleges.

In addition to associate and certificate degree programs, Maricopa Community Colleges offers the QuickStart Semiconductor program, a 10-day bootcamp program designed to help students gain entry-level employment or discover additional career pathways in the semiconductor industry.

In the past two academic years, Maricopa Community Colleges has enrolled 5,503 engineering students, 439 students in automated industrial technology and manufacturing, 119 students in electrical technology, 46 in water and wastewater treatment, and 1,275 in construction. Many students enter the workforce directly, while others transfer to our Arizona university partners to finish their bachelor's degree.

Based on earnings estimates reported after graduation, students completing these programs have landed jobs as Automation Engineer Technology/Technicians, earning on average \$57,000 annually. Other jobs include Industrial Electronics Technology/Technicians, with average earnings of \$61,615, and Manufacturing Engineering, with average earnings of \$54,000, among others. Average earnings ranged from \$38,323 to \$68,106, depending on the career field.

MCCCD serves an entire manufacturing ecosystem through our programs. We support multiple rapidly growing industries in Maricopa County and Arizona, preparing students for numerous opportunities and not just one area.

According to a recent workforce study, **one out of every 28 jobs** in Maricopa County is supported by the activities of Maricopa Community Colleges and its students — emphasizing the vital role MCCCD has to play in training skilled workers in high-demand industries (Lightcast, 2023). Additionally, the District has added **\$7.9 billion of income** to the Maricopa County economy in FY 21-22 (Lightcast, 2023).

Student Testimonials

"There's a lot of opportunities with technology growing as fast as it is. I think the future is going to be great."

— Perla Lugo GRADUATED & HIRED

"I can see myself building a career."

- Rylee Pruitt GRADUATED & HIRED

"This program has given me the knowledge to start a new career path. It helped me feel more confident that I will be able to start a new career and provide for myself and my son. I have my first interview with Tokyo Electron Ltd. I feel very confident about it!"

— Danelle Smith GRADUATED

"It just opened my eyes to a whole new industry. The skills I learned in class got me a job at a company that is contracted with Intel to work in the sub fab. Also a schedule that aligns with my life out of work."

— Dakota Washington GRADUATED & HIRED

"I am ready to start a new career path as a direct hire with a successful and longstanding company in this industry, and I'm really looking forward to it."

— Tishana Richards GRADUATED & HIRED

"This program has impacted me in ways I never thought of. I got to learn more about the semiconductor industry and how it is important to the world."

— Jairo Alarcon Luna GRADUATED & HIRED

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ABC15

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Arizona Commerce Authority

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Arizona Republic

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