



# Exploring Manufacturing Careers in Grundy County

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## Industry Overview

Manufacturing is the process of adding value to raw materials by turning them into products. Overall, it encompasses many industries producing a wide variety of end products.

**Manufacturing encompasses a wide-range of industries including:**

1. **Automotive**
2. **Chemical**
3. **Clothing and footwear**
4. **Electronics**
5. **Food and drink**
6. **Metals**
7. **Pharmaceuticals**
8. **Process manufacturing**



The world of high-tech manufacturing is exploding with exciting opportunities for today's workforce. As jobs in advanced manufacturing gain momentum, manufacturers are looking for highly skilled production workers.

### In-Demand Manufacturing Jobs

Grundy Workforce Services has identified 14 high-demand jobs with available training programs in the manufacturing field. They are listed on the back page with related wage and training information. Certain manufacturing occupations may require drug testing and/or criminal background checks.

## Outlook & Growth

The world of high-tech manufacturing is exploding with exciting opportunities for today's workforce in Grundy County. As jobs in advanced manufacturing gain momentum, employers are looking for highly skilled production workers. Unfortunately, many of these jobs go unfilled because employers can't find the people with the right skills.



## Training

Jobs in Grundy County's manufacturing industry require education and training, yet they don't always require a four year degree. Depending on your career interests and professional goals, you can choose a training program from several weeks to more than four years. Here are some examples below:

### 1 Year or less

#### Certificate Program

- Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operator
- Machinist
- Tool and Die Makers

### 2 Years

#### Associate Degree

- Industrial Machinery Mechanics
- Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers

[www.jjc.edu/grundy-workforce](http://www.jjc.edu/grundy-workforce) provides information about careers in manufacturing and includes local Grundy County job postings, training programs, and advice on how to find financial aid. It is a resource which will introduce you to manufacturing jobs in Grundy County and help you figure out which ones could be the right fit for you.

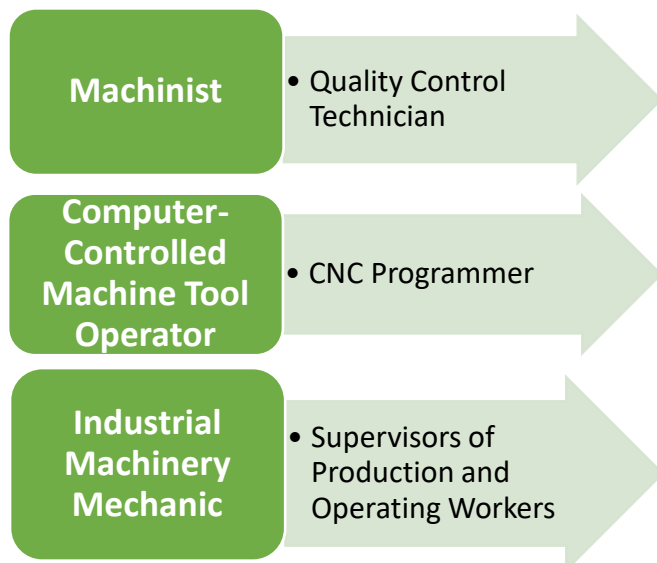


## Career Opportunities

There are many job specializations and opportunities within the manufacturing field. You can train for a job as a supervisor or transportation and distribution manager in manufacturing and spend more time working with people or work independently operating and repairing machines. Different jobs also have different working environments. You could be working at a desk, in an office, on a busy production floor, or in a machine shop.



Of course, you don't have to stick to one career pathway. You may start in one career and advance with experience and education into something different. Here are some manufacturing career pathway examples:



These career pathway examples are just a way to get you started – the next step is up to you!

## Required Skills & Abilities

Many jobs in manufacturing require strong technical, math and science skills. Although completing the required technical training is critical to landing a job in these professions, there are additional skills employers also look for. To move ahead in, and even begin your career, you will need to demonstrate good interpersonal and communication skills.

















**How many of these interpersonal manufacturing skills do you see in yourself?**

- **Communication - writing, presenting, computer literacy**
- **Organization - time management, flexibility**
- **People management - teamwork, influencing, negotiation, leadership**
- **Critical thinking - problem solving, creativity, judgement**



# Grundy County In-Demand Manufacturing Jobs

Job Title	Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	Annual Job Openings Grundy County	Average Starting Hourly Wage	Average Hourly Wage with Experience
<b>Certificate</b>				
 Chemical Plant and System Operators*	29	~10	\$21.78	\$57.21
 Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators*	507	~10	Insf. Data	Insf. Data
 Computer Numerically Controlled Machine Tool Programmers	80	~10	Insf. Data	Insf. Data
 Electrician*	1,794	14	\$19.88	\$52.54
 Industrial Machinery Mechanics	810	13	\$17.69	\$42.78
 Industrial Machinery Installation, Repair, and Maintenance Workers	1,025	17	\$17.70	\$42.95
 Machinists*	1,566	~10	\$11.60	\$29.63
 Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	4,611	22	\$10.94	\$28.53
 Tool and Die Makers*	213	~10	Insf. Data	Insf. Data
 Welders*	740	~10	\$12.99	\$29.85
<b>Associate Degree</b>				
 Industrial Engineering Technician	117	~10	Insf. Data	Insf. Data
 Maintenance Workers, Machinery	125	~10	\$16.29	\$38.55
 Quality Control Technician	1,924	14	\$11.59	\$30.55
 Supervisors of Production and Operating Worker	1,474	17	\$17.94	\$47.40

\* Earning an associate degree will also satisfy educational requirements for this job.