

FLATE FOCUS

April 2024



FLATE Webinar Series

April 18, 2024 1:30 PM ET
Overview of AI in Manufacturing

April 26, 2024 10:00 AM ET
Best Practices for Your CNC Course or Program

May 7, 2024 2:00 PM ET
Universal Programming Approach for any make of Programmable Logic Controller (PLC)



Register Now



All webinars are free to attend. Certificates of attendance available upon request.

FLATE News

ET Forum Article

FORUM on Engineering Technology

The 52nd state-wide Forum on Engineering Technology was held on April 4-5, 2024, at the State College of Florida (SCF) in Bradenton, FL. The forum was well attended with 66 participants, including 36 from 17 Florida state and community colleges and two universities as well as representatives from Florida manufacturers and other partner organizations. The two days of the forum were

filled with key topics, discussions, and updates, including:

- A roundtable discussion on recruiting faculty, adjuncts, and students, best practices for advisory committees, and faculty loads
- An update on SETIAB – the State Engineering Technology Industry Advisory Board
- Education vendor roundtable discussion on current technical education trends
- Engineering Technology college program updates
- Industry/Economic/Workforce Panel on work-based learning, industry certification and connecting with educators
- Tour of the SCF Engineering Technology facilities and labs
- Update on FloridaMakes and the State of Manufacturing in Florida
- FDOE report on new program developments
- Associate of Science in Engineering Technology core and specialization standards review
- and more...

[Read full article](#)

2024-2025 Florida Master Credentials List Deadline for Applications: June 30, 2024

Florida's Master Credentials List is a comprehensive roster of state-approved degree and non-degree credentials. The list helps ensure the state's education system aligns with



the current and projected talent needs of industry and prepares Floridians for in-demand occupations by directing the use of federal and state funds for workforce education and training programs that lead to these credentials of value. Some of the manufacturing-related degree and non-degree programs new to the list in 2024-

2025 include:

- **Associate in Science (AS)** - Semiconductor Engineering Technology
- **Advanced Technical Certificate (non-degree)** - Aerospace Technology, Avionics Systems Integration Specialists, Biomedical Equipment Technician, Energy Management & Controls Technology, Engineering Technology, Manufacturing Technology, Semiconductor Engineering Technology, and Unmanned Vehicle Systems Operations
- **Industry Certification** - Certified Industry 4.0 Associate II: Advanced Operations, Certified Industry 4.0 Associate III: Robotic System Operations, NCCER Electronic Systems Technician Level 4 Post-Secondary

The CareerSource Florida Board of Directors approved the delivery of the 2024-2025 Master Credentials List, which contains more than 2,300 credentials of value, to the Florida Board of Education. **This dynamic list will continue to evolve as new credentials that meet labor market needs, as outlined in the Framework of Quality, are added on a quarterly basis.** The Master Credentials List application is open year-round for Florida school districts, Florida College System institutions and local workforce development boards to submit credentials for consideration for the Master Credentials List. **School districts or Florida College System institutions seeking eligibility for Career and Professional Education (CAPE) secondary or post-secondary funding for the 2024-2025 year must submit applications by June 30, 2024.**

For more information & application

High School High Tech Project Venture



Ernie Friend, Executive Director of FLATE, attended the 2024 Project Venture competition in Jacksonville. The Project Venture teams competed before a panel of judges with each team presenting their innovative business plan and a promotional video. The students' ideas were very innovative and will all make successful startup companies. Go to <https://www.abletrust.org/projectventure/> for full details.

SkillsUSA Florida Conference



FLATE attended the SkillsUSA event on April 16, 2024 in Jacksonville. Top students in over 100 skill and leadership competitions gathered to compete against their peers to advance to the National Leadership and Skills Conference. These competitions hone students' technical skills, connect them with business and industry, and help them become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders, and responsible community members. The FLATE table provided information on manufacturing programs and careers.

FLATE Presents Educator Workshop on Manufacturing and the Economy at USF Stavros Center



The *Gus A. Stavros Center for Free Enterprise and Economics Education* at the University of South Florida (part of the College of Education) supports teacher education by providing workshops at the USF Tampa location and around the greater Tampa Bay area. Dr. Marilyn Barger, Senior Educational Advisor at FLATE, presented an in-person workshop about Manufacturing and the Economy on April 9, 2024 from 5pm-7pm at the Stavros Center at USF. The workshop began with a panel of professionals from industry

Stavros Center at USF. The workshop began with a panel of professionals from industry

providing first-hand information about what the workplace is like for manufacturing employees in Florida and what they look for in new hires. Beth Galic-Executive Director of BAMA, Peter Cirak-Vice President of Quality at Seal Dynamic, and Patti Gander- BEST Consultants also discussed the role of manufacturing in the local and statewide economy. Teachers eagerly asked many good questions and kept the discussion focused on what they could share with their students.

Following the panel, Dr. Barger provided an overview of FLATE's resources that might be useful to teachers, available on FLATE websites: www.madeinflorida.org and www.flate.pbwiki.com. The workshop concluded with an activity matching position titles with various technical disciplines related to manufacturing. Many of the teachers attending Stavros Center workshops teach social sciences - including economics - and have little exposure to technology or manufacturing. This venue is a great opportunity to expose more of the community to the manufacturing industry and manufacturing career paths. Several attendees mentioned that they would be sharing the information provided on manufacturing jobs and salaries with their students.



FLATE Regional Updates

Junior Achievement Inspire Career Expo Southwest Florida - April 9-11



Lordana Guillaume, Southwest Florida Regional Ambassador and Danielly Arozco-Cole, CTE Manager for FLATE, together with Rob Harris, Executive Director of the Southwest Regional Manufacturers Association (SRMA) and Roots Education Co., participated in the JA Inspire Career Expo, held at the Alico Arena in Fort Myers from April 9th – April 11th, promoting manufacturing careers and multiple educational resources. JA Inspire is an interactive, highly engaging virtual and face-to-face career expo for

middle and high students in Glades, Collier, and Lee Counties. Following a curriculum taught in classrooms, students attend the JA Inspire career expo to have meaningful conversations with real Southwest Florida employers and learn what it takes to earn credentials, gain real-world work experience, and ultimately become employed.

At this event, more than 6,000 students and over 80 educators from approximately 30 schools around the area attended to take advantage of learning about the various career opportunities in their region. In terms of organizations, over 30 organizations were in attendance, ranging from educational institutions to manufacturers to financial organizations. We were able to both educate students on the valuable field of manufacturing with opportunities in their own backyard and engage them with an example from an on-site COBOT, courtesy of Roots Education Co. In addition, we also hosted a virtual booth as part of JA Inspire's Virtual Career Expo, concurrent to the expo being held at the Alico Arena.

JST Power Honors Women in Manufacturing March 11



FLATE's Central Florida Regional Ambassador, Mariellen Batchelor, attended an incredibly interactive

Gulf Coast State College Senior Night April 9



Over 250 high school seniors from Bay County Public Schools visiting Gulf Coast State College on April 9th to learn about their programs.

and educational experience that the JST Power Team put together at their Lake Mary facility. The event correlated with National Rosie the Riveter Day. Members of the Manufacturers Association of Central Florida and the FloridaMakes team had the privilege of honoring these women in manufacturing during the tour and recognizing their contributions to the industry.

Kayla Martin, FLATE's Florida Panhandle Regional Ambassador, participated in the senior night event, providing information on manufacturing careers and manufacturing programs to the high school students. In addition to information on the post-secondary programs available at the college, students were also exposed to career paths, like those in manufacturing, available through these programs.

Upcoming Events

2024 FLATE Summer Teacher Institute June 10-14, 2024 - Brandon, FL



Join us for a week of hands-on training in emerging technologies for Secondary and Post-Secondary Educators teaching manufacturing courses. New topics this year include Skill Boss & AI for Engineering Tech! This workshop is free and mileage and hotel expenses are covered for Florida educators travelling more than 50 miles.

[Register for 2024 Summer Teacher Institute Now!](#)

CyAD Conference: Cybersecurity Across Disciplines June 12-13, 2024, Moraine Valley Community College



Discover how to integrate new technologies into your classroom and gain a broader understanding of cybersecurity's role in different disciplines. This event is intended for community/technical college faculty from both cyber and other fields, including Aerospace, Automotive, Marine and Geospatial Technologies, Business, Healthcare, Critical Infrastructure, and associated areas related to Autonomous Technologies (i.e., Automation, Manufacturing, etc.). A travel stipend will be available to eligible faculty traveling from outside the area of the event to assist with transportation costs.

[Register Now!](#)

ASEE 2024 Annual Conference and Expo Portland, OR - June 23-26, 2024



Whether you're a teacher striving to enhance your pedagogical approach, a professor with innovative insights to share, or a professional shaping the future of the industry, the American Society for Engineering Education Conference is your platform for empowerment and growth.

[Register Now!](#)

58th Annual FACTE Conference & Trade Show

The Florida Association of Career & Technical Education is the only organization in the state that is solely dedicated to representing the interests of career and technical educators.

Save the Date

58th Annual FACTE Conference & Trade Show

July 15-17, 2024

Sawgrass Marriott
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

[Click here to join FACTE.](#)

[Conference Registration Open!](#)

17th Annual CNC Haas Technical Educators Conference July 22-25, 2024 - Minneapolis, MN



[More information and to Register](#)



[Register Now!](#)



FACTE is honored to host the 2024 ACTE Region II Conference Sept 2024!
ACTE Region II is comprised of 8 member states and 3 territories: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and the territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

[Presenter Proposals open May 1](#)

Opportunities for Educators

"Open-Door" Funding Pays for Fast, Valuable, Online Professional Development at State College of Florida

Do you, your students, family, or friends want to upskill your coding or technical skills online and earn an industry license using *Open Door* supplemental funding? This is a great time for you or one of your students to consider taking either a

Cybersecurity boot camp or a 2-month licensure training online at the SCF Advanced Technology Center, on a variety of innovative topics such as:

- AWS Cloud Practitioner
- CompTIA: A+, Network+, Security+
- HTML/CSS: User Experience / User Interface
- Java and JavaScript
- Python
- WordPress



Courses are conveniently offered online and in the evenings. Scholarships are ongoing. Questions? Contact the SCF Success Coach, Christy Matta, at MattaC@scf.edu.

[For more information & to Register](#)

2024 ATE Future Leaders Fellow Program Apply by April 30!



The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) is pleased to announce a Request for Applications for the 2024 ATE Future Leaders Fellows program. The ATE Future Leaders Fellows program aims to

develop community college leaders with the competencies to support business and industry relationships, build STEM capacity, and support a campus culture of innovation to prepare students for the future of work. AACC invites applications from two-year college professionals from member colleges seeking to advance their leadership skills and contribute to a national dissemination effort on STEM technician education and capacity building. AACC will select up to four Fellows to participate in a year-long program beginning May 20, 2024, and ending April 19, 2025.

[Click here to Apply - April 30, 2024](#)

Harbor Freight Tools for Schools High School Trade School Teachers/Programs Apply by May 3rd!



The 2024 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence will award \$1.5 million in cash prizes to 25 outstanding U.S. high school skilled trades teachers and their programs. Awards include 5 winners of \$100,000 and 20 winners of \$50,000.

[For Rules, Eligibility and to Apply](#)

AACC MentorLinks Announces Cohort 2024-2026 Looking for Colleges & Mentors!



The MentorLinks: Advancing Technological Education program, supported by the **National Science Foundation** is designed to help colleges develop or strengthen technician training programs in STEM fields through mentoring, professional development opportunities, and technical assistance; to establish

connections for colleges to identify new ideas and relationships through networking opportunities at program meetings and Advanced Technological Education (ATE) National Conferences; and to help colleges gain insight about support for building and sustaining new programs. The grant period runs October 1, 2024–November 30, 2026

Request for Proposals:
Colleges Deadline May 30, 2024
Colleges receive \$30,000 for the 2-year grant period and travel support for the project director.

Request for Applications:
Mentors Deadline May 30, 2024
For community college employees & individuals closely aligned with community college STEM programs.

Apply by May 30, 2024

Apply by May 30, 2024

National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing 2024 Summer Teachers' Virtual Workshop - June 20-25



www.nextgenmfg.org

Free virtual Professional Development. Technology topics include: Programming using micro:bits, DC Electrical Circuits, 3D Printing/Additive Manufacturing, and SolidWorks 3D Modeling. Earn Professional Skills and Technical Skills Microcredentials.

Over \$460 in materials will be provided including one-year online educational version of SolidWorks CAD Software, micro:bit kit, electrical components kit, DISC and Emotional Quotient personal assessments, DISC and Emotional Quotient workbooks and reference materials. Participants will be eligible to receive up to \$750 in stipends (\$500 for participation in workshop and completion of evaluation materials; \$250 upon submission of curriculum for use in classroom).

For more info and to Apply by May 24

National IT Innovation Center 2024 Summer Working Connections



**Cutting-edge Professional
Development Workshops**
In-person week at Collin
College in Frisco, Texas – July
15-19

**[CLICK HERE REGISTER TO
ATTEND IN PERSON -](#)**

1. **[Advanced Data Analytics](#)**
2. **[AWS Academy Cloud
Architecting](#)**
3. **[Cyber Buffet](#)**
4. **[Generative AI Tools in the
Classroom](#)**
5. **[Securing the Foundation: A
Hands-On Cybersecurity
Workshop for Critical
Infrastructure](#)**
6. **[Teaching Mobile App
Development](#)**

Online week – July 22-26

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TO
ATTEND ONLINE -](#)**

1. **[A.I. Foundations](#)**
2. **[Fundamentals of the Cloud](#)**
3. **[Introduction to Data
Analytics and Visualization
with PowerBI, Tableau and
KNIME](#)**
4. **[Intro to Python](#)**
5. **[Machine Learning Security](#)**

Working Partners Workshop May 21 - July 16 1:30PM - 3PM ET



Highly recommended by Florida state college faculty who have attended, This FREE professional development workshop supports educators with planning, initiating, sustaining & assessing industry-education partnerships.

As a bonus, participants will also be eligible to receive funding to attend the 2024 HI-TEC conference held July 29 - August 1 in Kansas City, MO.

Time commitment: Approximately 2 to 3 hours per week (90 min live session + time online).

Teams of two are welcomed, as are individuals.

For more info and to apply:
www.workingpartnersproject.org/information--registration.html

**FREE High School Science Educators Workshop
at the AVS 70th International Symposium in Tampa, FL
November 4-5, 2024**

Upon completion of the workshop, teachers receive at no cost:

- 1.5 Nationally certified CEU's or 150 sixty-minute clock hours from the University of Dayton
- A vacuum system for their school identical to ones used in the workshop (valued at \$1200)
- Travel Support



Science and Technology
of Materials, Interfaces, and Processing

The workshop starts with pump operation basics and simple demonstrations, current industry applications, but evolves to the interplay of experimental data, theory, and models. Teachers get hands on experience with these ideas using vacuum pumps and equipment that they will receive from the society. [Click here for a report from a past attendee.](#)

[Click for Workshop Information and to Apply for Sponsorship](#)

Opportunities for Students

Industry Insights: A Conversation with Manufacturing Employers Free Webinar to Share with Students: April 24 6pm-7pm



Engaging discussion between employers and students preparing to work in the manufacturing sector. A panel of industry representatives will chat with a panel of community college students about the importance of employability and professional skills in today's workplace. Students, educators, and employer partners are all encouraged to attend. All participants will have the opportunity to pose questions to panelists.

[Register here](#)

STEM Scholarships to Share with Students

\$500-\$1000 Student Scholarships for College of Central Florida Students Apply by June 1st



The Mid-FL Regional Manufacturers Association is sponsoring scholarships for College of Central Florida students interested in Manufacturing, Logistics or Supply Chain Management. The Scholarship can be used for tuition, books, fees or housing.

[Apply by June 1](#)

FPL Robotics Scholarship \$5,000



Scholarship opportunity to reward FIRST® students whose experience has inspired their interest in an engineering or information management career. Awarded to a high school senior who has two or more years in an FTC or FRC program in FPL's service area. Renewable each year, up to \$20,000.

[Apply by May 15](#)

STEM Summer Camps to Share with Students



July 8-11, 2024 - Ocala

SPC St. Petersburg College

June 3-7, 2024
St. Pete College
Clearwater Campus
Students 13-16 years of age

Mechatronics and 3D Design

Robotics Camp

A STEM camp for rising 8th graders featuring LEGO Mindstorms and robotics.

[REGISTER](#)

July 15-18, 2024 - Ocala

Robotics Camp

A STEM camp for rising 9th and 10th graders featuring Python programming and robotics.

[REGISTER](#)

Financial assistance based on need may be available for both camps.

Camp

The final project will be an electronic memory game the students manufacture and program during the week. Includes a tour to a local manufacturer.

Registration fee includes a 1-year license for SolidWorks and a certificate of completion!

[REGISTER](#)



State College of Florida (Bradenton) - Summer STEM Camps

June 10th - 14th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rising 6th – 8th grades
Introduction to Robotics - Middle School

June 17th - 21st, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rising 6th – 8th grades
Intermediate Robotics - Middle School

Ethical Hacking & Manufacturing

June 24-28 9AM-3PM

6th – 11th grades

Explore the exciting realm of white hat hacking, learning the ropes of cybersecurity with a moral compass. Uncover vulnerabilities and craft digital defenses. Also, delve into the fascinating universe of manufacturing, where you'll turn raw ideas into tangible creations. Gear up for a hands-on experience that not only fuels your curiosity but also opens doors to future careers in ethical hacking and manufacturing.

Futuristic Finishing

July 8- 12 9AM-3PM

6th – 11th grades

Dive into the fascinating world of manufacturing, exploring cutting-edge finishing techniques like alternate substrates, low-temperature cure, and carbon fiber innovations. Unravel the secrets behind product finishes, their qualities, strengths, and durability. Discover the art and science of color mixing. Explore exciting career paths in manufacturing, fabrication, powder coating, and finishes.

AI Manufacturing

July 15-19 9AM-3PM

9th – 11th grades

Dive into the cutting-edge world of AI manufacturing, where campers fuse Arduino electronics with Echo Dot for hands-on AI experiences. Venture into the realms of virtual reality and cybersecurity, gaining insights into the future of AI technology. Discover exciting career paths in artificial intelligence, manufacturing, and engineering. Join us for a week of interactive learning, inspiration, and a glimpse into the boundless possibilities of STEM!

[Learn more about SCF Coding Academy Camps](#)

Resources

New X-STEM Videos on Manufacturing



Learn how advanced manufacturing is a critical part of the cutting-edge work taking place at NASA that allows us to explore space and beyond. Watch the *Manufacturing the Future* **episode**. Click [here](#) for the **FREE** companion lesson "Introduction to Additive Manufacturing".

[Sign up for X-STEM all access today](#)

FLATE Resources

FLATE Webinar Series - Watch on Demand

- Leveraging an Open Lab to Provide Greater Access for Students in your Manufacturing Program
- Developing Local Articulations to Increase Enrollment in College Programs
- How to Create Work-based Learning Opportunities
- Recruiting Strategies Best Practices
- Robots for AI and Industry 4.0 Training and Demo
- Creating Videos using Classroom Projects and Student Success Stories
- How to Increase Student Diversity in ET Programs
- How to Develop ET Dual Enrollment or Early College Programs
- Cybersecurity for Manufacturing Series (4-part)
- Overview of Teaching PLCs - added Feb 2024



[View Webinars on Demand](#)



flate.org

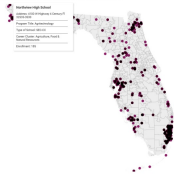


[FLATE wiki](#)



madeinflorida.org

Academic Programs at Secondary Education Curriculum Institutions that Support Manufacturing



FLATE's Manufacturing Matters Dashboard

A tool highlighting manufacturing education, careers, industry, and their impact on Florida's economy.

[Click here for FLATE's Manufacturing Matters FL Dashboard](#)

Florida Department of Education Resources



Florida's Workforce Education Initiative

With Career, Technical and Adult Education (CTAE), you can train for a better career quickly and affordably.



Apprenticeship programs are a proven training method benefiting job seekers and businesses.

Check Out Our Previous Newsletters:

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