

FLATE FOCUS

September 2025



part of the
FloridaMakes
network

*Faculty: Scroll down to **Opportunities** section for two professional development stipend opportunities: FSI BRIDGE Course (\$250) and NCNGM Summit (\$1,500 travel allowance)*

Get Ready! October is Manufacturing Month!

FLORIDA
**MFG
MONTH**

Find Great Careers
OCTOBER
Plan Your Event Now

**Tour Florida's
Industries**

www.madeinflorida.org

Join us in celebrating Manufacturing Month 2025! Help inspire students to become the next generation of high-tech workers for the manufacturing industry that drives our economy!

Manufacturing Day will be celebrated worldwide on October 3, 2025! The initiative, kicking off every year on the 1st Friday in October, promotes great careers in manufacturing to students. In Florida, we celebrate it all month, empowering manufacturers and educators to come together to address Florida's manufacturing workforce challenges. By opening manufacturing doors to students, parents, and the community, manufacturers highlight what modern manufacturing looks like as well as the many high-wage careers available! Together, we can build a stronger future for manufacturing in Florida.

- ☐ [Click here to register your event](#) or email events@flate.org.
- ☐ Share your activities and highlights on social media using:
 - #MFGDay25
 - #FLMFGMonth25
 - #MEPNationalNetwork

The FLATE webinar held on August 26th covered strategies and best practices to help you maximize your Manufacturing Student Event. Watch the 30-minute webinar on demand for step-by-step instructions.

Reach out to FLATE at events@flate.org with any questions.

MFG Month Webinar

MFG Month Resources

2025 Fall Forum on Engineering Technology



The statewide Forum on Engineering Technology (ET) held on September 11–12, 2025 was hosted by Northwest Florida State College (NWFSC) in Niceville, FL. The fifty-sixth forum was attended by representatives from 18 Florida state, community, and technical colleges, four universities, as well as Polk and Santa Rosa County Public School Districts. This year's forum marked one of the largest gatherings of new and seasoned faculty, welcoming new faculty from St. Petersburg College, Tallahassee State College, Northwest Florida State College, and Santa Fe College which is in its first year of implementing the Associate in Science Engineering Technology (ASET) degree program.

The forum offered valuable guidance and resources to support both new and experienced ET faculty. Guest speakers, including WonderFL, EMAC, FSI, Skills Gapp FL, FSU Inspire, FloridaMakes, and the University of North Florida, shared insights on building talent pipelines, advancing technical education, and applying AI in manufacturing.

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) provided important guidance for ET programs, including updates on the daggering of the *Advanced Manufacturing* specialization and its replacement, *Automation and Manufacturing*. Click on the link below for full details.

[Read Full Article](#)

Roy Kirchner Recognized as Mentor of the Year by University of South Florida Nault Center for Entrepreneurship



Roy Kirchner, CEO of Ultimate 3D Printing Services, FLATE partner and former ET Forum sponsor, has been recognized by The [USF Nault Center for Entrepreneurship](#) as its inaugural *Mentor of the Year* for 2025. The accolade recognizes a mentor in the center's Entrepreneur Mentorship Program who has shown exemplary passion for helping USF students navigate their entrepreneurial journeys. We congratulate Roy Kirchner on receiving this award as he continues to mentor students in their pursuits!

[Read Full Article](#)

Events

FLATE Engineering Technology (ET) Faculty Mentorship October 6, 2025 - 1st Mondays at 11:00 AM

Please join us on the first Monday of the month 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET for our Monthly ET Mentorship meeting. The next one will be October 6, 2025. The ET Mentorship meeting is designed to help new faculty with questions about curriculum, labs, advisory committees, and much more. We also invite experienced faculty to share their knowledge with new faculty and help promote the ET degree. Please send the invitation to others who may be interested.



Register here

Florida Forward: Semiconductor Edge Webinar September 24, 2025 - 7:30 PM ET

Florida is fast becoming a critical player in the global semiconductor landscape. Join influential public and private sector leaders from Florida, South Korea, and Taiwan for a high-level global webinar exploring the future of Florida's fast-growing semiconductor industry. This webinar will spotlight transformative initiatives, regional strengths, and emerging opportunities. From cutting-edge research to strategic partnerships, discover how Florida is shaping the future of semiconductor innovation—and how you can be part of it.



Register here

ASME DGPSV Dimensional and Geometrical Product Specifications and Verification Standards Committee Week October 20-24 | St. Petersburg, FL

DPGSV Week will be held at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront and includes:

- Meetings of the ASME AED, B1, B46, B89, H213, MBE, VVUQ, and Y14 Standards Committees as well as various Project Teams within each of those committees
- Presentations, orientation sessions, and an evening networking session
- "Principles of GD&T" L&D course on Monday and Tuesday, which will immerse you in the rules, symbols, and other concepts of the American Standard for Geometric Dimensioning & Tolerancing: ASME Y14.5-2018. You'll earn 1.5 CEUs and 15.0 PDHs by taking the course. [Register now - seats are limited.](#)



All events (except L&D course) are free to attend and open to the public without registration. Contact [Marilyn Barger](#) with any questions.

MakeMore Manufacturing Summit October 22-23, 2025



Register here

10th Annual Manufacturing Education 5K October 26, 2025



Registration is now open for participants who wish to run, walk, or volunteer at the event at www.mastercuttool.com/race. This event, presented by Mastercut Tool Corp. and the Shaluly Foundation, LLC, supports our ongoing mission to provide scholarships and opportunities for students pursuing careers in the vital field of manufacturing. In the past 9 years, \$232,000 has been distributed to deserving students.

[Click here to reach out to discuss how you can become involved.](#) Sponsorships include a table at our event expo and adding your promotional items to our participants' goodie bags.

Register or Become a Sponsor!

Opportunities

FSI Faculty Semiconductor BRIDGE Course Professional Development | \$250 Faculty Stipend

This program is designed to support faculty and teachers from Florida schools (middle & high school, technical, community or state college) who are interested in learning more about the semiconductor industry in Florida and sharing this knowledge with their students.



Selected participants will complete three online modules, averaging one hour each:

- What is it like to work in a Clean Room?
- What is the Semiconductor Industry?
- Jobs in the Semiconductor Industry.

Other requirements: complete a brief pre-survey and post-survey.

Faculty and teachers who are selected and successfully complete the three BRIDGE courses and surveys will receive a \$250 stipend.

To Apply

Process Control Workshop for Operations Technicians

Are you interested in this free workshop?



FLATE's NSF ET Pathways Grant is looking into offering a hands-on workshop focused on the fundamentals of process control. Process Control is typically a feedback control loop that consistently calculates the "offset" value and applies a correction to bring the system being controlled closer to its setpoint (temperature, flow rate, voltage, etc.). These models are extremely important for Industry 4.0 implementations, including implementations that look like straightforward updates to Industry 3.0 systems.

If you or someone you know is interested in a 1-day version of the Process Control workshop in Florida this fall please contact Marilyn.Barger@flate.org. The workshop would be free to faculty and teachers!

NCNGM Summit 2025, Rochester Hills, MI

October 15-17, 2025 - \$1,500 Stipend Available



The National Science Foundation (NSF) funded National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing - in collaboration with the National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC) - invites you to participate in the upcoming NCNGM Summit 2025. The Summit will take place at FANUC America Corporation HQs in Rochester Hills, MI, October 15-17, 2025. Attendees will have the chance to network with peers, share insights, and learn about the latest advancements shaping the landscape of next generation manufacturing.

A \$1500 travel stipend is available to eligible participants who are high school, community college, or university educators. Click on 'show more' under hotel suggestions (right above the schedule at the 'to apply' link below) to see stipend policy.

To Apply

Stipend Form

Opportunities to Share with your Students

Student Industry Mixers - Gainesville and Clearwater



September 30, 2025



October 9, 2025

4:45-7:00 PM

UF Malachowsky Hall, Gainesville

This is not your average networking event; it's an experience that brings together students and industry professionals for meaningful conversations about careers in semiconductors.

To
Register

6:00-8:00 PM

St. Petersburg College-EpiCenter,
Clearwater

Networking and Internship recruiting event for students interested in Engineering (any discipline), Machining, Electronics, Design/Drafting, Software Development or IT Systems.

To
Register

MSSC Fall 2025 High School Video Contest What Manufacturing Means to Us



MANUFACTURING
SKILL STANDARDS
COUNCIL

Open to high school classes, grades 9–12, nationwide, this contest encourages students to shine a spotlight on the modern world of manufacturing—its innovation, opportunities, and impact—through short, original videos. This

contest is about reimagining manufacturing. Students will become storytellers and ambassadors for an industry full of exciting career pathways. Through this project, classes will:

- Empower Skills & Confidence – Highlight how students gain purpose and potential by engaging with manufacturing in the classroom.
- Lead with Student Voices – Share authentic, youth-led perspectives that inspire peers.
- Explore Careers – Discover and showcase the diverse opportunities that exist in today's manufacturing sector.

Contest Details

Resources

Florida Ready to Work: Free Employability Skills Credentials and Classroom Resources



Florida Ready to Work (FRW) is a state-sponsored, research-based career readiness program that develops a confident, work-ready talent pipeline supporting economic growth and community well-being. Florida Ready to Work is designed with educators in mind. FRW

is offering this **free, flexible, and customizable** online solution that helps students build the essential life and career skills they need to thrive beyond the classroom in today's workforce. Upon completion, learners earn up to three stackable credentials, signed by the Governor of Florida, endorsed by the National Work Readiness Council, and recognized across industries as measurable proof of job readiness in three key areas: **soft skills, digital skills, and academic employability.**

Educator classroom resources for employability skills and career readiness include:

- Curriculum Crosswalks

- Flexible Lesson Plans
- Classroom Materials

Employability
Training

Classroom
Resources

Manufacturing of Semiconductors in Space

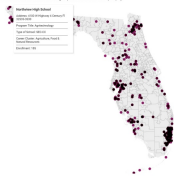


Join the Hip Hop M.D. Maynard Okereke for a conversation with Dr. Jessica Frick. She's a Microgravity Chemist & Materials Scientist who is using microgravity as a tool to pioneer the manufacturing of semiconductors in space!

Classroom Resources

FLATE Resources

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.

Manufacturing Matters
Dashboard

FLATE Webinar Series - Watch on Demand

- Insights into the Workforce of the Future (April 2025)
- AI & Machine Learning Workshops (March & April 2025)
- Data Analytics in Manufacturing (November 2024)
- Necessary Skills Now: Resources for Integrating Employability Skills into Technical Programs (October 2024)
- Edge Computing: A Feasible & Integrated Approach to Collecting System Data
- A Universal Programming Approach for any make of Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs)
- Best Practices for your CNC Course or Program
- Overview of AI in Manufacturing
- Overview of Teaching PLCs
- 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)



View Webinars on
Demand



flate.org



[FLATE wiki](http://FLATE.wiki)



madeinflorida.org

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.

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