

The Virginia Council on Advanced Technology Skills (VCATS), VMA's Workforce Development Division, is here to help meet Virginia's present and future needs for skilled technical workers by setting the standard for success in industry. As Virginia's only competency-based industry-endorsed workforce training and certification organization, VCATS provides a customized fast track pathway to credentials for a 21st Century advanced technology career.

customized
fast track
21st Century
advanced technology

The VCATS Level I Manufacturing Technician certification gave me the edge I needed to land 2 jobs in less than a year. The fact that I was VCATS certified was a factor in obtaining both positions. I am truly thankful to the VCATS organization and for all the opportunities it has afforded me.

*John Earle, Certified VCATS Level 1 Technician
& Micron Technology employee*

VCATS Partners

Founding Sponsors

Alcoa Inc.
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"The globally competitive forces in manufacturing are substantial and increasingly challenge U.S. industry. Our U.S. and Virginia workforce is the essential element in addressing cost and productivity challenges. Industry needs the collaboration and partnership on a state level to develop the talent needed to innovate and execute activities that will help us remain competitive. I believe that VCATS is an essential vehicle for state-wide collaboration, assessment, and workforce talent development."

William Conklin, Merck & Co.



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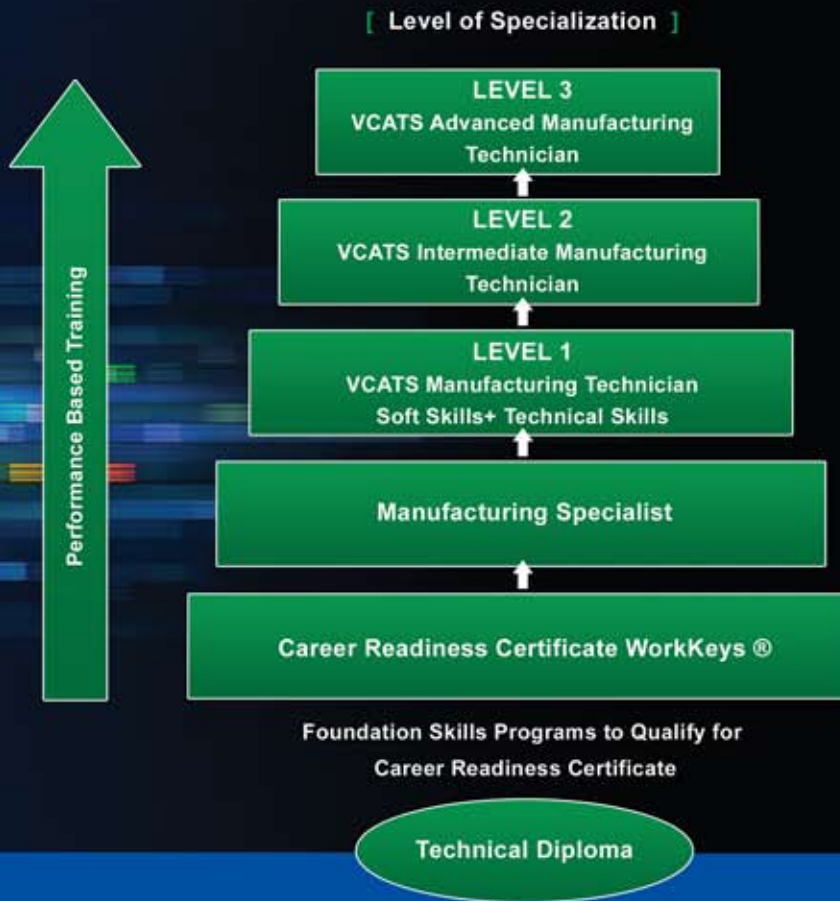
Virginia Manufacturers Association Workforce Development



Setting the Standard for
Success in Industry



visit www.vcats.org
for more information



VCATS Certification System

The VCATS training and certification system, designed and validated by industry partners, is intended to:

- Develop a workforce pipeline capable of meeting the cutting-edge requirements of existing and emerging employers in advanced technology. This includes the areas of science and technology-based firms in advanced pharmaceutical, biotech and biomedical, chemical, advanced materials, plastics and semiconductor manufacturing
- Educate the public about the benefits of advanced technology careers through marketing initiatives, such as the *Dream It Do It Virginia* campaign and the advanced technology job board
- Assess technical skills in 12 critical areas and 6 critical soft skill areas
- Provide online and instructor led training to address identified technical skill gaps
- Provide a pathway to advanced level training and specialized training based on industry requirements

Employers partner with VCATS to design, prototype, test and refine innovative solutions to training that are then scaled up to meet Virginia's advanced manufacturing workforce needs. VCATS and its training partners assess, train and certify individuals across Virginia. Employers and their associations publicize these solutions and seek legislative support for replicating and embedding these designs in Virginia's training institutions, workplaces and career centers.

Dream! Do! Do!
VIRGINIA

WWW.DREAMITDOITVIRGINIA.COM

To effectively introduce people to exciting careers in advanced technology fields, such as manufacturing, biotechnology, robotics and more as well as the education and training needed to claim these careers, VCATS launched the *Dream It Do It Virginia* campaign and the advanced technology job board. *Dream It Do It Virginia* is part of the national DREAM IT DO IT® initiative and provides a free, online resource to connect people with information about careers in advanced technology. The website, www.dreamitdoitvirginia.com, serves as a "one stop shop" for school counselors, teachers, parents, students and more in an effort to reach out to the youth of Virginia and others uncertain about their career path. They are encouraged to learn more about advanced technology careers through this resource, as well as to explore current employment opportunities through the career center at www.advancedtechnologyjobs.com.

