

America's Promise Funding Opportunity

Recently, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA) announced the availability of \$100 million to fund tuition-free training for unemployed, underemployed, and incumbent workers in order to improve opportunities for employment in middle-skill and high-skill jobs.

Grant projects must be focused on **regional workforce partnerships** that involve the local workforce system, local training providers such as community colleges, local economic development agencies, employers, and industry associations.

To support America's Promise Career Pathways in Manufacturing, the **National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS)** stands ready to partner with local and regional leaders to ensure that program participants receive the skills, competencies, and credentials needed for precision manufacturing jobs, including machining and industrial maintenance positions.

NIMS can support regional America's Promise projects in these ways:

Career Pathways: NIMS can assist regional partnerships with implementing manufacturing career pathways, including identification of the skills and competencies needed that lead to NIMS' industry-recognized credentials. Assistance includes helping embed NIMS credentials into associate degree education tracks to promote participant upward mobility.

Accreditation and Credentialing: NIMS can provide accreditation and credentialing for precision manufacturing jobs, including any faculty or staff involved in teaching courses and implementing career pathways.

Workforce Intermediary: NIMS has a number of already-established employer relationships and partnerships and can serve as a workforce intermediary for the purpose of recruiting and maintaining relationships with regional manufacturing employers.

Stakeholder Convening: NIMS can assist with convening employers and identifying the standards and skills needed for employment.

Apprenticeship: NIMS' recognized competency-based apprenticeship model can help regional workforce partnerships with implementation of registered apprenticeship as a work-based learning opportunity for participants.

NIMS was founded in 1994 by a number of local metalworking trade associations to develop and maintain a globally competitive American workforce. NIMS sets skills standards for the manufacturing industry, certifies individual skills against the skills standards, and accredits training programs in educational institutions that meet NIMS quality requirements.

NIMS certifications meet requirements for industry-recognized credentials and ensure a level of quality as employers seek skilled machinists and workers search for employment and earnings opportunities.



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