

Bridging The Gap Between Education & Industry

Executive Director's Update By Tom Mudano

27 Pre-Apprentice Candidates Participate in AmSkills 1-Day Production Workshops in Pasco & Hernando



On Saturday, April 22nd, 27 Pre-Apprentice Candidates participated in a 1-Day Production Workshop at the AmSkills Training Centers in Pasco and Hernando Counties. High school students participated in a variety of hands-on projects, including constructing a 2-Dimensional Eiffel Tower made out of aluminum. Parents attended a presentation, and question and answer session with Tom Mudano to learn how their young adults can become part of the AmSkills Pre-Apprenticeship Program.

The Pinellas County AmSkills 1-Day Production Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, May 6th from 8am to 4pm at Pinellas Technical College in Clearwater. If you know of any young adults ages 15-18, who may be interested please have them call AmSkills at 727-301-1282 ext. 126 for questions or register by going to AmSkills.org. This is a free event.



ICTC Governing Board Votes to Establish 501c3 Non-Profit Foundation to Expand Fundraising Opportunities



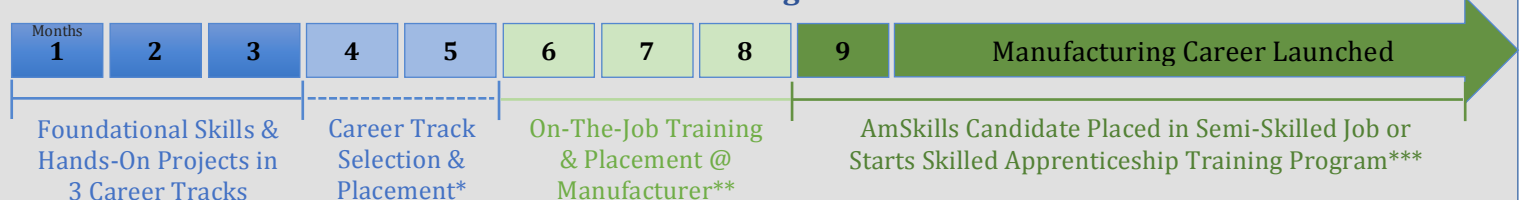
At the April 18th Board Meeting, the ICTC Governing Board voted to establish a 501c3 non-profit Foundation, to provide additional opportunities for members of our community to support the AmSkills Pre-Apprentice & Apprenticeship Training programs for our youth, adults, and veterans. AmSkills is currently a Special District Government Entity, which provides opportunities for

governmental funding but prevents AmSkills from applying for many grants that are only available to non-profit organizations. AmSkills is truly changing the lives of young adults, many of whom cannot afford to pay fees for training or to launch their own career. By establishing the "AmSkills Apprenticeship Foundation, Inc.," we will be able to offer individuals, businesses and others the opportunity to help our students launch careers in manufacturing, leading to well paid jobs and long-term success.

Adult Manufacturing Career Launch Programs Scheduled to Start in Hernando, Pasco & Pinellas This Summer

AmSkills is getting ready to start the "Manufacturing Career Launch" program for adults 18 and over in all three Counties this summer. Pasco & Hernando Counties will begin on Wednesday, July 5 and Pinellas County, which will begin Thursday, August 10th. Adult students will explore three manufacturing career tracks, CNC Machining, Mechatronics, and Industrial Maintenance. They will complete hands-on projects, and learn the basic foundational skills to launch a career. This program is 600 hours and will require full-time attendance; however, after completing 400 hours, candidates may be eligible for placement in paid positions with local manufacturers as semi-skilled workers or Apprentice candidates. The remaining 200 hours may consist of a combination of on-the-job training and/or more focused training on the specific track they select.

AmSkills Adult Manufacturing Career Launch Timeline



*Placement is based on successful completion of a minimum of 400 AmSkills training hours, job availability & candidate match with the appropriate manufacturer.

Candidates will have to complete an additional 200 hours of their selected career track training &/or combination of OJT if placed at a manufacturer. AmSkills cannot guarantee placement.

**On-The-Job Training (OJT) & Placement Period may range from one to three months for all candidates placed. During this period, the manufacturer, candidate & AmSkills coach will determine if Candidate is to be considered for a Semi-Skilled or Skilled Apprenticeship.

*** If Candidate is considered for a Skilled Apprenticeship position, a separate Apprenticeship Training Plan and Agreement will be drafted and approved by all parties prior to starting Apprenticeship.

NOTE: Length of time shown above may vary depending on many factors including number of participating manufacturers in the AmSkills program, availability of jobs, and the Candidate's successful completion of the AmSkills Pre-Apprenticeship or Manufacturing Career Launch program.

Thank You Kathryn Starkey for Donation for Shirts

Recently, Kathryn Starkey donated \$1,500 to AmSkills to purchase shirts for all Apprentice Candidates to wear during their training at the AmSkills Training Center. The picture to the right shows a few of our students wearing their shirts prior to going on a tour of ABC Packaging, a local manufacturer. The back of the shirts prominently reads "AmSkills Manufacturing – Bridging the gap between education & industry."

Thanks again Ms. Starkey, our students appreciate your generosity.



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Summer High School Manufacturing Boot Camp Scheduled June 12th to June 30th



Do you know a high school student aged 15 – 18 who likes to build things? AmSkills has scheduled our Summer Manufacturing Boot Camp program in all three Counties with activities to include projects such as building a 3-D printer, field trips to local manufacturers, team building activities, ropes course and many other fun projects. This camp allows high school students to see and experience potential career options available to them and to consider launching their manufacturing career in the AmSkills Pre-Apprentice Program starting this fall.

Camp fees are \$125 per week totaling \$375 for the 3-week camp, which will run from 8am to 4pm Monday through Friday. To register, sign up on our website at AmSkills.org. AmSkills does not want to turn anyone away from this great opportunity; therefore scholarships are available for those needing financial assistance. Donations are also accepted to help offset scholarship fees or camp costs. Please call 727-301-1282 ext. 126 for more information.

AmSkills Receives "Certificate of Regional Excellence" Recognition from the Future of the Region Awards



The Future of the Regions Awards breakfast was held on Friday, April 28th to honor notable achievements in regional planning. The event was hosted by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council at the Hilton Carillon Park Hotel in St. Petersburg. AmSkills was acknowledged for innovation toward economic growth in the Economy & Energy category.

PACE Center for Girls Participate in Metal Working & Machinery Project at AmSkills

On April 14th, 15 girls visited AmSkills in Pasco County to complete various Metal Art Projects taught by AmSkills Melinda Paproski. AmSkills has made a powerful connection with the young ladies at the PACE Center for Girls in New Port Richey.



Each one of the girls has a very personal story leading up to her placement at the center; a common thread is a need for educational support and social services to make a healthy transition to adulthood. For these young ladies it is quite possibly the start of an uncommon career path for women.

Florida State Representative, District 36, Amber Mariano and Pasco County Commissioner Jack Mariano visited the event. Commissioner Mariano stated, "I am excited to see what AmSkills can do for young people and excited to see their involvement." AmSkills will be reaching out to PACE Pinellas to coordinate a similar event.

Community Connections

The following are various meetings, presentations or tours conducted to introduce AmSkills:

ICTC (Related to All Counties)

PMMI: AmSkills Presentation to Strategic Planning Committee
German American Chamber of Commerce: Attended Event at MOSI
ICTC Governing Board: Facilitated Board Meeting in Hernando
Upper Tampa Bay Education Foundation: Attended Event
Apprenticeship USA Webinar: Participated Regarding Funding Opps.

Pasco County

Pasco Parks & Recreation Dept: AmSkills Tour & Presentation
Career Source: AmSkills Tour & Presentation for Veteran Recruiters
Commissioner & AmSkills Update Meetings: Met with (5) Commissioners
One scheduled in May
NetFest: Networking Event

Pinellas County

Commissioner & AmSkills Update Meetings: Met with (3) Commissioners
One scheduled in May
Pinellas Technical College: Career Recruiters visited AmSkills for tour

Hernando County

Hernando Education Foundation: Meeting with Executive Director
Commissioner & AmSkills Update Meetings: (5) Scheduled in May
Pasco/Hernando Career Source: Meeting regarding funding

Manufacturer Connections

Pasco County

Pall Aerospace: Reviewing AmSkills Proposal
Tru Simulation+: Preparing Proposal to Provide Apprentices
Wellbilt: AmSkills Tour & Presentation

Pinellas County

Bosch Osgood: Preparing Proposal to Provide Apprentices
A-B-C Packaging Machine Corp: Student Plant Tour

Hernando County

Quorvo: Scheduled Plant Tour in May
Monster Transmission: Discussion on Student Placement

Hillsborough County

Cardio Command: Plant Tour & Presentation on AmSkills

School Connections

Pasco County

PHSC Student Tour of AmSkills
Gulf High School: AmSkills Presentation to Students

Pinellas County

PTC-Clearwater: Presentation to Students Regarding Dual Enrollment
Bayside High School: AmSkills Presentation to Students
Clearwater High School: AmSkills Presentation to Students
Countryside High School: AmSkills Presentation to Students
Dunedin High School: AmSkills Presentation to Students
Largo High School: AmSkills Presentation to Students

Hernando County

Central High School: AmSkills Presentation to Students
Springstead High School: AmSkills Presentation to Students