



For Immediate Release
Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Contact:
Sarah Walker, 704-216-3706
Sarah.walker@rccc.edu

**QUALITY JOBS AVAILABLE TO GRADUATES OF NEW MANUFACTURING
TRAINING PROGRAM**

*Local manufacturing companies are hiring; Almost 90 percent of graduates find full-time
employment within one month of graduating*

SALISBURY, N.C. — The North Carolina Manufacturing Institute is continuing to grow and expand. With nearly 50 local manufacturers on board, the job opportunities for those interested are practically limitless.

Graduates with little-to-no manufacturing experience are securing employment by transforming themselves into career-ready manufacturing professionals through this no-cost eight-week training program. As part of the North Carolina Manufacturing Institute initiative, they gain knowledge and skills in safety, quality assurance, manufacturing processes and maintenance awareness.

“I absolutely love my job and can honestly say I never would have gotten a job like this if I hadn’t received the NC Manufacturing Institute scholarship and gone through the training program,” said Chris McDonald, graduate of the NC Manufacturing Institute. “My work is satisfying. I have a real career now. I’m getting paid vacations for the first time in my life, not to mention that I’m saving a lot of money on gas because the plant is only five minutes from my house!”

Those who have not considered manufacturing as a viable career option or those with no experience in the field should not be deterred from pursuing the program.

“While we hear a lot about low unemployment, many of us know people who are still piecing together multiple part-time jobs or who are desperately searching for a good job,” said Craig Lamb, vice president of corporate and continuing education at Rowan-Cabarrus. “This program is for anyone who wants a quality full-time job with full benefits – it doesn’t matter what your background is, it matters what your future is.”

There are well-paying jobs in manufacturing available right here in Rowan and Cabarrus counties. In fact, almost 90 percent of graduates find full-time employment within one month of graduating.

The North Carolina Manufacturing Institute is a partnership conceived with leaders from Rowan and Cabarrus counties from both chambers of commerce, economic development authorities, the Centralina Workforce Development Board, Mitchell Community College and Rowan-Cabarrus Community College.

The North Carolina Manufacturing Institute aims to build a clear and achievable pathway for people to acquire skills in order to access good manufacturing jobs in our local community, as it is specifically designed to link and leverage the existing assets of Rowan and Cabarrus counties to solve a growing gap between regional job seekers and available positions.

The growth and popularity of these clean, high-tech jobs has led to a high demand for a qualified workforce. Selected participants enroll in the program for free, thanks to support from local manufacturers. They graduate with two national certifications – the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council’s Certified Production Technician and the Career Readiness Certification.

“Our scholarship fund, financed by local employers, ensures that we can offer this training at no cost to the individual. They also plan to hire many of the graduates,” said Lamb. “Individuals train 20 hours per week for a total of eight weeks. Upon completion, they are qualified for 90 percent of manufacturing jobs in our area.”

Hiring managers from the North Carolina Manufacturing Institute partner companies are given the graduates’ resumes and are invited to the college campus to meet the graduates for a preliminary interview to kick-off their search for employment. Follow-up interviews and multiple employment offers are often a direct result of this event.

The next eight-week training program begins soon. Morning and evening classes are available to accommodate various employment schedules and family obligations. All it takes to get started is a local phone call (1-866-418-9257), contacting Donna Ludwig (donna.ludwig@rccc.edu) or completing a NC Manufacturing Institute Interest Form on the NC Manufacturing Institute website (www.ncmanufacturinginstitute.com).

Get details, including a list of those companies hiring the graduates, at www.ncmanufacturinginstitute.com. For more information about Rowan-Cabarrus Community College, please visit www.rccc.edu or call 704-216-RCCC (7222). The College is currently accepting applications for eight-week classes beginning in March, as well as summer and fall courses.

###

Opening its doors in 1963, [Rowan-Cabarrus Community College](http://www.rccc.edu) is one of 58 colleges in the state-supported North Carolina Community College System. Rowan-Cabarrus is a comprehensive, community-focused institution of higher learning, serving the residents of Rowan and Cabarrus counties at multiple campus locations and through

on-line programs. Rowan-Cabarrus offers fully-accredited associate degree programs in more than 30 areas of study, including arts and sciences, business, information technology, health and public services, engineering technologies, and biotechnology, as well as dozens of diplomas and certifications. Rowan-Cabarrus provides more than 2,000 course offerings, serving a yearly overall enrollment of more than 20,000 students. In addition, Rowan-Cabarrus provides the education and job-training programs needed to meet many of the workforce demands of the North Carolina Research Campus being developed in Kannapolis