

# Community-Based Job Training Grants

## *Thomas Nelson Community College*

**Grantee:** Thomas Nelson Community College

**Industry Focus:** Advanced Manufacturing

**Key Partners:** ADVEX Corporation; Alcoa-Howmet; Anheuser-Busch; Canon Virginia Inc; Lowe Precision Machine; Northrop Grumman Ship Building; Precision Weld Technology; Printpack; New Horizons Regional Education Centers; Peninsula Council for Workforce Development; Peninsula Worklink; Virginia Manufacturers Association; and Fabricators & Manufacturers Association, International.

**Grant Amount:** \$1,999,936

**Leveraged Amount:** \$7,689,343

**Location of Grant Activities:** Virginia Peninsula and Hampton Roads, Virginia

**Challenge:** Manufacturing remains a critical and evolving component of Virginia's economy. Local industry partners have indicated that there will be 4,000 new jobs over the next four years in welding, machining, and precision production technology and maintenance, in addition to the need to replace workers lost from normal attrition. Industry partners have also noted a lack of awareness of the earnings potential and lifelong career opportunities in advanced manufacturing.

**Addressing the Challenge:** The Virginia Peninsula Advanced Manufacturing Initiative (VPAMI) will produce up to 335 workers with the skills to meet aerospace and nuclear industry standards through credit and non-credit education and training. The project will focus on welding, Computer Numeric Control (CNC) machining, and precision production technology. There will also be an outreach program aimed at older youth and the K-12 system. VPAMI will support the high-technology manufacturing jobs prevalent in the region and emphasize specialized technology that will increase the number of technicians required by area employers. Components of the program include integrating industry standards and workplace competencies into the curriculum; adopting exemplary educational materials and best practices; improving articulation between programs at secondary schools and two-year colleges; and providing replication information and tools to other community colleges.

### **Projected Outcomes:**

- 355 participants will enroll in education and training activities.
- 209 welders, 51 CNC machinists, and 12 precision production technicians will complete education and training activities and receive a degree, certificate, or industry certification.
- 198 welders, 48 CNC machine operators, and 11 precision production technicians will complete education and training activities and enter training-related employment.

