



## Connecticut's commitment to *Advancing Manufacturing Faster*

What resources do you need to accelerate your manufacturing success? Capital for equipment or new technologies? Technical expertise in maximizing operational efficiencies? Programs to help train/retrain talent? Supporting all these goals and more is Connecticut's Manufacturing Innovation Fund (MIF) — just one component of the state's supportive ecosystem focused on *Advancing Manufacturing Faster*.

### Investing in every phase of a company's growth

Connecticut has a long history of innovation in manufacturing. The state legislature established the Manufacturing Innovation Fund (MIF) in 2014 to foster continued manufacturing excellence in Connecticut. The MIF is currently authorized to invest \$60 million in programs designed to help manufacturers with a wide range of activities — from innovating new products and accelerating growth to cultivating talent and stimulating sales.

### Supporting many types of businesses

Programs supported by the MIF are developed and administered in collaboration with many public and private partners. These programs are available to those that meet the guidelines — both Connecticut-based manufacturers as well as those relocating to the state, including:

- Aerospace, medical device and other companies providing technologically advanced commercial products or services;



- State or federally certified education and training programs focused on workforce development;
- Entities looking to leverage federal grant funds to support advancements in manufacturing.

Key facts about the advanced manufacturing sector in Connecticut



4,500+ businesses  
162,800 employees



11.7% of Connecticut's  
Gross State Product



96% of the state's exports  
\$11.8B in defense contracts

# Key Programs the MIF Supports to Advance Manufacturing Faster

*If you're looking to...*

*Then consider this program. (Click name for details.)*



- Secure specialized equipment/expertise
- Upgrade facilities
- Develop prototypes, fund research and more

**Manufacturing Voucher Program.** Provides matching funds of up to \$50,000 for specialized equipment, consulting, facilities and more that can help manufacturers become more efficient and productive. *Participating companies must pay at least half the cost of any initiatives.*

<https://ctmvp.ccat.us/>

- Lower the long-term cost of energy

**Energy on the Line.** Provides grants of up to \$40,000 to implement green energy upgrades through C-PACE. Funds may be used for any project-related expenses, thereby reducing the financing needed and lowering the borrowing costs. *Manufacturers may also be eligible for full financing of their energy upgrades through the C-PACE program.*

<http://energyontheline.com/>



- Upgrade employee skills
- Retrain existing employees to meet emerging needs

**Incumbent Worker Training Program.** Provides matching funds of up to \$100,000 per company to help retrain current employees through programs offered by community colleges and universities, as well as on-site training tailored to the specific employer.

<https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/IWTmanufappform.htm>

- Develop new talent while benefitting from their on-the-job contributions
- Support long-term workforce development

**Pre-Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship Programs.** Helps fund on-the-job training and classroom instruction for those entering the field. The *Pre-Apprenticeship Program* helps fund part-time, paid internships that may lead to the Registered Apprentice program. The three- to four-year *Registered Apprentice program* leads to "journeyman status," a nationally recognized, portable credential.

<https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/appmifapp.htm>



- Introduce the next generation of talent to careers in manufacturing

**Young Workforce Development.** Encourages middle school/high school students to explore careers in manufacturing — through programs like *Young Manufacturers Academy*<sup>1</sup> and the *Connecticut Dream It. Do It.*<sup>2</sup> program.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ccat.us/education-workforce/student-programming/young-manufacturers-academy/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ccat.us/education-workforce/manufacturing-career-advancement/connecticut-dream-it-do-it-careers/>



- Explore, design and implement adaptive machining of fiber-reinforced composites

**Advanced Manufacturing Center.** The Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT), offers manufacturers the opportunity to explore innovative technologies through prototyping support, new composite machining capabilities and research/testing of new technologies and process improvements.

<https://www.ccat.us/amc/>

To learn more about the specific eligibility and application guidelines for each program, click on the program names above. For general inquiries, call Barbara Fernandez at 860-270-8025.