



MEMO OF SUPPORT
2026-27 State Budget - Department of Labor
\$1.75 Million - Manufacturers Association of Central New York
Registered Apprenticeship Program

MACNY - The Manufacturers Association of Central New York (MACNY) and the Manufacturers Alliance of New York (Alliance) strongly support continued state funding of MACNY's Registered Apprenticeship Program in the amount of \$1.75 Million in the 2026-27 State Budget.

New York State has been funding MACNY's Registered Apprenticeship Program, a successful program that targets the upskilling of incumbent and entry-level manufacturing workers, since the program's launch in 2016. The effective pilot of the apprenticeship program in Central New York created a statewide need to expand and support registered apprenticeships in high-demand sectors. To date, MACNY has served more than 553 apprentices and 100 companies throughout the Alliance, which consists of nine partner organizations across New York. Dozens of apprentices have graduated from the program over the last year, and hundreds of new apprentices in high-demand fields are projected for the calendar year as the state prepares for major transformative projects.

In 2023, the National Association of Manufacturers and Deloitte released a study on workforce strategies in manufacturing. The report found that 1.9 million manufacturing jobs nationally could remain unfilled by 2033 due to the skills gap. The national numbers correspond with NYS Department of Labor Projections that anticipate at least 71,000 additional manufacturing jobs by 2030. MACNY's Registered Apprenticeship Program has and will continue to upskill workers and help fill this gap.

The strategic goal over the next three years is to increase Registered Apprenticeship Programs in advanced manufacturing across all New York City boroughs. Expansion efforts in 2025 included welcoming the Binghamton Chamber of Commerce to the Alliance. Each organization of the Alliance has a dedicated apprenticeship subject matter expert to support regional employers. Collectively, the Alliance has served more than 1,310 apprentices at more than 232 businesses. These registered apprenticeships raise the skill levels of manufacturing workers and create distinctive career pathways, while providing individuals, especially those from diverse populations, with the necessary training and education they need to succeed. In fact, of the 205 apprentices served in 2025, 58.05% were from an underrepresented population (youth ages 18-24, female, Hispanic, non- White, and/or a veteran).

MACNY's Registered Apprenticeship Program has been rapidly expanding into new industry sectors. These sectors include the semiconductor industry, clean energy and its supply chain, information technology (IT), automotive technologies, agricultural technology, and municipal government. Within the advancing sectors, major announcements in nanotechnology and semiconductor investment across New York State will utilize Registered Apprenticeship to upskill the necessary workforce. The program currently supports twenty-six (26) trades across the Alliance. Some of the most popular trades include engineering, industrial manufacturing, quality control, toolmaking, welding, and software development. In 2026, at least four additional trades will

be added to support the manufacturing industry. These trades include customer service associate, financial services representative, project manager and machine repairer.

With its use of trusted associations as intermediaries, along with its collaborative partnering, the program is a unique model of apprenticeship with proven results. Additional systems were created to align group sponsor best practices through technical assistance guides, a localized site for resources, and support. Continued funding for the program would allow for the expansion of programming focused on traditionally underserved populations to include youth, veterans, and individuals with disabilities. Plus, it would allow for the development of additional trades that would expand to the supply chain and supportive services that encompass the manufacturing ecosystem.

Given its tremendous success to date, MACNY's Registered Apprenticeship Program continues to serve as a critical tool for building a skilled workforce throughout New York. The program is an essential component of a successful workforce development strategy to grow a stronger economy through advanced manufacturing. We respectfully request \$1.75 million in the State Budget.



Members of the Manufacturers Alliance of New York State

