

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Katy Alexander
Missouri Community College Association
katy.alexander@mccatoday.org
573.634.8787

**Missouri Community College Association Hosts Virtual Press
Conference to Discuss Opportunities Provided by MoAMP**

(Jefferson City, MO) - Taking advantage of the return to normalcy in higher education and manufacturing, the Missouri Community College Association (MCCA) is encouraging Missourians to participate in a federally-sponsored apprenticeship program that can help students earn a paycheck in a high-demand field while still in school.

The Missouri Apprenticeships in Manufacturing Program (MoAMP) prepares students for the workforce of tomorrow by delivering pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship training opportunities tailored to meet employer needs.

“Following nearly two years of unprecedented challenges, the MoAMP program offers the perfect opportunity to help train Missourians for a long-term, rewarding career,” said **MCCA Deputy Director and MoAMP Project Lead Jordan Williams**. “By providing these apprenticeships within high-demand industries, we’re helping kickstart Missouri’s economy, provide a business-friendly landscape for our state, and get people back to work when they need it most.”

A consortium of nine schools currently participates in MoAMP, which is paid for with grant funding provided by the U.S. Department of Labor. Apprentices in the program receive classroom instruction at participating colleges while working, learning, and earning a paycheck from a local industry partner. Many of the participating schools also offer high-quality pre-apprenticeship programs, which are shorter-term trainings with the opportunity to transition to a traditional earn-and-learn apprenticeship upon completion.

The goal of these registered and industry-recognized apprenticeship programs is to help participants pursue a high-quality career in advanced manufacturing. Current career pathways include automation and systems, logistics, and production and maintenance.

The apprenticeship industries were selected by the MCCA consortium along with its national partner, the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS). A global leader in the industry, manufacturing represents 11.5% of Missouri's total private sector employment with 268,693 workers across 6,954 establishments.

"MCCA has worked diligently to promote MoAMP and increase apprenticeship opportunities for community college students in advanced manufacturing," **MCCA President and CEO Brian Millner** said. "Now is an excellent time for us to position ourselves as thought leaders in advanced manufacturing training and continue to support the needs of today's workforce."

The colleges currently offering MoAMP apprenticeships are East Central College (Union), Jefferson College (Hillsboro), Metropolitan Community College (Kansas City), Mineral Area College (Park Hills), Moberly Area Community College, St. Charles Community College, St. Louis Community College, State Fair Community College (Sedalia), and State Technical College of Missouri (Linn).

The consortium is always looking to take on new employer partners. Manufacturers interested in hearing more about the benefits of the earn-and-learn model and what MoAMP has to offer are encouraged to contact MCCA or their local participating community college.

For more information on MoAMP, please visit www.mccamoamp.com.
