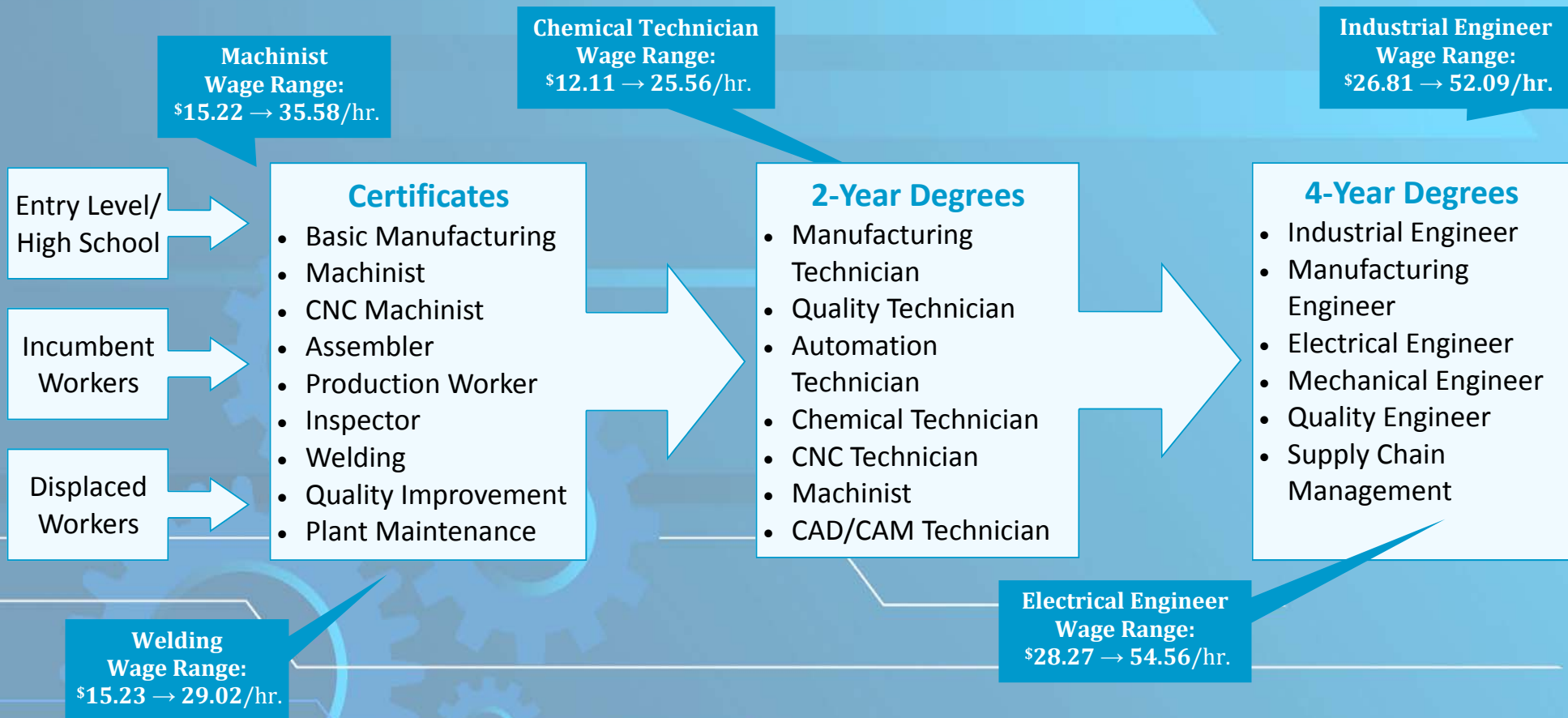


Career Paths in Manufacturing



A wide range of certificates and degrees are offered by the 11 community and technical colleges located throughout King County. To locate a college near you and learn more about the programs available, visit www.sbctc.ctc.edu and click on "Colleges." Or visit www.checkoutacollege.com.

Chart Source: Shoreline Community College. Wage data is from www.workforceexplorer.com. Wages are representative of the Bellevue-Everett-Seattle MSA, March 2009.

Manufacturing

Trends

For many decades, the manufacturing industry in King County has been an important part of our local economy and workforce. Although the sector is subject to cyclical dips and has had overall flat employment during the last decade, it remains a significant industry in terms of volume of jobs, quality of jobs and wages, and contribution to the local economy. The projected average annual growth rate for manufacturing in King County from 2007-2017 is 0.7% (Washington State Employment Security Department).

The manufacturing industry in the Puget Sound region is a diverse composition that includes food processing, printing and publishing, fabricated metal products, industrial machinery, transportation equipment, textiles and apparel. In King County, approximately 35% of manufacturing employment in 2009 quarter 1 was in transportation equipment (WA State Employment Security Department), with aerospace – including big companies like Boeing and a large number of smaller aerospace businesses – representing the largest portion of the sector.

Examples of current manufacturing jobs in King County include industrial engineers, production workers, electrical engineers, and team assemblers. Engineering is a position commonly associated with the manufacturing industry; the engineering occupation as a whole is expected to grow at 0.6% per year between 2007 and 2017.

Wages

The average annual wage for manufacturing in King County in 2009 quarter 1 was \$70,982 (source: Washington State Employment Security Department).

[Note: Wages are averages of all occupations within the sector – including entry level and high level positions.]

For detailed information about occupations within this sector (e.g. current wage ranges per occupation, training schools, employment projections, and a link to jobs listed at WorkSource):

1. Go to www.workforceexplorer.com,
2. Click on the 'Wage and Benefit Information' link, and
3. Click on the 'Occupation Explorer' link to start your search.

Resources for Education and Career Planning

O*NET Online

<http://online.onetcenter.org>

A nation-wide career exploration resource, the O*NET database contains information about hundreds of occupations, including job tasks, education requirements, and wages.

Washington Workforce Explorer

<http://workforceexplorer.com>

Workforce Explorer provides career and economic information for Washington State. You will find career assessment and planning tools in the Career Center section and find occupation wage information by county in the Wage and Benefit information section.

Washington Career Bridge

www.careerbridge.wa.gov

Career Bridge is a one-stop, searchable database of education and training programs throughout Washington state where you'll discover:

- Available training programs.
- Average earnings and employment outlook for each career choice.
- Hot jobs for the future.
- What you'll need to learn to get those jobs.

This site was created by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, a partnership of labor, business and government.

Self-Sufficiency Calculator

www.thecalculator.org

The Calculator includes a variety of resources, including the Self Sufficiency Standard. The Self Sufficiency Standard for Washington measures how much income is needed for a family of a given composition - ranging from a one person household to a large family - in a given place, to adequately meet basic needs without any public or private assistance. The Self Sufficiency Calculator can help you:

- Plan and develop career goals so you can work towards a better paying job.
- Decide if a job you are considering will pay enough to meet your family's needs.
- Determine if you might be eligible for public benefits that can help with expenses like health care or child care.
- Test and compare different work or living options and see how they affect your bottom line.

WorkSource

www.go2worksource.com (Statewide) • www.worksourceskc.org (Seattle-King County)

Washington's career and employment website offering information about career services available at local WorkSource offices as well as a number of career planning and job search tools and links.