



# Explore a Career as a **COMPUTER-CONTROLLED MACHINE TOOL OPERATOR**

## **What do Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators do?**

Computer-controlled machine tool operators operate computer-controlled machines or robots. These robots and machines are typically capable of cutting, bending, forming and polishing raw metal into finished parts and tools. Workers in this profession usually hold positions as computer numerically controlled (CNC) machine operators and programmers. They handle computer-programmed machinery that perform a wide variety of functions, such as drilling, cutting or shaping materials. They also read and interpret blueprints, input data into a computer system and inspect the accuracy of a machine's operation.

## **Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators are in demand in Kankakee County!**

Kankakee County employment of computer-controlled machine tool operators is expected to increase through 2020.

## **Training & Educational Opportunities**

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as a computer-controlled machine tool operator, but first you will have to complete specific training and earn a certificate. By completing courses in computer programming and gaining a working knowledge of the properties of metals and plastics, you will learn the skills necessary to get a job as a computer-controlled machine tool operator.

## **As a Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operator you will:**

- Check to ensure that workpieces are properly lubricated and cooled during machine operation
- Measure dimensions of finished workpieces to ensure conformance to specifications
- Mount, install, align and secure tools, attachments, fixtures and workpieces on machines
- Stop machines to remove finished workpieces or to change tooling, setup or workpiece placement
- Transfer commands from servers to computer numerical control (CNC) modules

# Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operator

## Training Provider

The following certified training provider offers programs and certifications to train for a career as a computer-controlled machine tool operator:

- Kankakee Community College

Career scholarships may be available if you qualify.



## Types of Employers

There are many types of employers looking to hire computer-controlled machine tool operators in Kankakee County, including:

- Electrical/Electronics manufacturers
- Forging and stamping businesses
- Machine shops
- Metalworking machinery manufacturers
- Motor vehicle parts manufacturers

## Wages & Openings

### Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operator Employment Data for Kankakee County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$13.59
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$32.45
Average Annual Job Openings Kankakee County	13
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	152

## Opportunities

After you receive your certificate as a computer-controlled machine tool operator, you will have many opportunities for advancement and specialization. Some opportunities include:

- CNC Machine Builder
- CNC Programmer
- CNC Setup Operator
- Laser Machine Operator
- Prototype Maker



**Kankakee Workforce Services**  
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