



Explore a Career as a **MACHINIST**

What does a Machinist do?

A machinist uses machine tools to make or modify parts, primarily metal parts, a process known as machining. A machinist is to metal as a woodcarver is to wood. They typically work in machine shops using specialized measuring and cutting tools. Because the technology of machining is changing rapidly, workers must learn to operate a wide range of machines. Some newer manufacturing processes use lasers, water jets, and electrified wires to cut the workpiece. Although some of the computer controls are similar to those of other machine tools, machinists must understand the unique capabilities and features of different machines.

Training & Educational Opportunities

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as a machinist but first you will have to complete specific training and earn a certificate. Students of machining will complete courses in trigonometry, geometry, blueprint reading, metalworking, and drafting. After completing these and other courses, you will have the skills required to get a job as a machinist.

As a Machinist you will:

- Align, secure and adjust cutting tools
- Measure, examine and test completed products for defects
- Monitor the feed and speed of machines
- Present finished workpieces to customers and make modifications if needed
- Setup, operate, and disassemble manual and automatic machine tools
- Turn, mill, drill, shape, and grind machine parts to specifications
- Work from blueprints, sketches, or computer-aided design files

Machinists are in demand in Livingston County!

Livingston County employment of machinists is expected to grow through 2032.

Machinist

Training Provider

The following certified training provider offers programs and certifications to train for a career as a machinist:

- Illinois Central College
- Illinois Valley Community College
- Kankakee Community College

Career scholarships may be available if you qualify.



Types of Employers

There are many types of employers that hire machinists in Livingston County including:

- Aerospace parts manufacturers
- Forging and stamping businesses
- Machinery manufacturers
- Transportation equipment manufacturers



Wages & Openings

Machinist Employment Data for Livingston County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$20.84
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$32.50
Average Annual Job Openings Livingston County	46
Annual Job Openings Bloomington Peoria Region	213

Opportunities

After you receive your certificate as a machinist, you will have many opportunities for additional certification and advancement. Some opportunities include:

- CNC Programmer
- Machinist Supervisor
- Mold Maker
- Tool and Die Maker



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