

THE NATIONAL INITIATIVE TO REBUILD AMERICA'S MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE

METAL (Metallurgical Engineering Trades, Apprenticeships & Learning) is a national workforce development initiative led by IACMI – The Composites Institute® and funded by the U.S. Department of War's Office of Industrial Base Policy aimed at providing high-quality, hands-on training in the metalworking and manufacturing sectors. METAL is expanding the pipeline of skilled workers needed to strengthen America's manufacturing base and defense industrial workforce through education, hands-on training, apprenticeships, internships and industry partnerships.

WHY METAL MATTERS

America's manufacturing workforce is facing a critical shortage. METAL was created to help solve this challenge.

- By **2030**, the U.S. is projected to have **2.1 million unfilled manufacturing jobs**, including approximately **383,000 skilled metalworking positions**.
- **92%** of specialized components used in U.S. defense platforms—including ships, submarines, aircraft and combat vehicles—depend on cast and forged metal parts.
- Without a stronger workforce pipeline, manufacturers will struggle to meet growing commercial and national security demands.

WHAT METAL DOES

METAL connects manufacturers, educators, workforce organizations and government partners to **prepare students and workers** for careers in:

- Metalcasting
- Forging
- Metallurgy
- Industry 4.0 Technologies
- Robotics and automation
- Advanced manufacturing

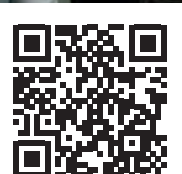
The initiative provides:

- K-12 STEM experiences
- Online training
- Hands-on bootcamps
- Registered apprenticeships
- Paid internships
- Mobile manufacturing training labs
- Industry-developed curriculum

Since launching in 2023, METAL has expanded to more than 15 training sites nationwide, with plans to double its footprint and increase apprenticeship and internship opportunities to 350 participants.



LEARN MORE at
METALforamerica.org





NATIONAL IMPACT

METAL is part of a broader effort to rebuild America's industrial capacity by creating clear career pathways into high-demand manufacturing jobs while helping employers develop the skilled workforce they need.

The initiative supports manufacturers across the country while strengthening the domestic supply chain that underpins America's economy and national defense.

METAL AT A GLANCE

- National workforce initiative
- Led by IACMI – The Composites Institute®
- Funded by the U.S. Department of War
- Launched in 2023
- 15+ partner sites nationwide
- Supports casting, forging and advanced manufacturing industries
- Expanding apprenticeships, internships and mobile training labs
- Website: metalforamerica.org

METAL BY THE NUMBERS

2.1 MILLION
projected U.S. manufacturing worker shortage by 2030

383,000
skilled metalworkers needed

92%
of defense platforms rely on cast and forged components

15+
METAL training sites nationwide

350
planned apprenticeships and internships

2023
METAL program launched

ABOUT IACMI

IACMI – The Composites Institute® is a Manufacturing USA institute that accelerates advanced manufacturing innovation and workforce development through collaboration among industry, academia and government. For more information, visit iacmi.org



THE
COMPOSITES
INSTITUTE



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PARTNERS

