Michigan Advanced Technician Training (MAT²®) Program

Gain the high-tech skills you need to succeed

“To grow our economy, businesses will need the right talent. To build a bright future for our young people, we must arm them with the right skill sets to succeed today and tomorrow.”

Governor Rick Snyder
Special Message:
Developing and Connecting Michigan’s Talent
December 1, 2011

High School Seniors and Recent Graduates…
Welcome to MAT²®!

MAT²® – the Michigan Advanced Technician Training Program – is an innovative, industry-driven approach to education.

Manufacturing sectors and technology industries are experiencing a shortage of employees with the knowledge, skills and competences necessary to operate and maintain new systems-based technology. The MAT²® program is an educational model developed in conjunction with global technology leaders to combine theory, practice and work to train a globally competitive workforce. MAT²® will provide you:

A three year training program with all tuition costs paid for by your employer

On-the-job training with pay*

An advanced Associate's degree in a high-tech, in-demand field

A guaranteed job upon successful completion of program

Access to training is easier than you think

Graduating High School students, students currently enrolled in a Community College or 4-Year University, as well as anyone looking for this state-of-the-art education model may apply for this new initiative, supported by the State of Michigan.

http://www.mitalent.org/mat2/  (information compiled by Barbara Karchin, CVS - 12.12.13)
Through the MAT²® program, students will learn theoretical and practical skills in cutting-edge fields such as Mechatronics, Product Design, and Information Technology.

Students will receive a salary throughout the program; have all tuition fees paid for by their employer and end up with an advanced associate degree. On top of that, there is a full-time technician job waiting for all successful MAT²® graduates.

*In exchange, MAT²® graduates commit to remaining on the job for at least two years after the training period ends.

Gain real-world competences while you obtain your degree

MAT²® combines state-of-the-art training facilities with a curriculum, specifically designed for current industry needs, and actual work sites to give you a vital and innovative competence-based education. Students alternate between campus (classes and labs) and company sites, acquiring marketable skills and valuable knowledge.

2014 Program Overview

Beginning in 2014, MAT²® will offer the following program options to its students:

**Mechatronics Technician (Oakland CC, Henry Ford CC, Macomb CC, Mott CC)**

Mechatronics is the combination of electrical, mechanical, and electronic competences, to identify, analyze, and solve systems-based problems. A Mechatronic Technician is a skilled individual, able to combine these competences to solve systematic problems, while also providing basic solutions using a holistic approach. A Mechatronic Technician must be able to support engineers, modify machines, make minor changes, repair, test, and provide maintenance for related equipment.

**IT Technician (Oakland CC – other colleges TBD)**

This program aims to give students a comprehensive understanding of the origins of the study of Computer Science/IT, including its mathematical background. Areas to be covered include databases, networks, system support, programming and programming languages. General topics will make up a wide-ranging curriculum of Computer Science/IT courses, which will lay the groundwork for student specialization during work periods.

**Design and Visualization Technician (lead colleges: Macomb CC and Mott CC)**

A Design and Visualization Technician uses engineering and management input to build 3D models of products, processes, or concepts that permit engineering analyses, process optimization, and experiential engagement with the product or environment.

The program is currently being offered through four community colleges – Henry Ford Community College, Macomb Community College, Mott Community College, and Oakland Community College – that have the industry-approved facilities and equipment for this highly specialized mechatronics training. The participating companies are highly versed in the training content, ensuring the curriculum will fully prepare students for a successful career.

MAT²® Program Overview

MAT²® Company Reservation Form

MAT²® is currently looking for industry partners and academic providers to participate in a range of professions, including mechatronics, industrial design, information technology and product development. Click on the link above to reserve space for your organization in an upcoming MAT²® cohort.

MAT²® Application Process (see below)

All applications will now be considered for our 2014 class.

Participating Companies and Community Colleges

Company Fair Tips & Information

Upcoming MAT²® Parent Information Nights

Thursday, December 19, 2013
Macomb Community College – South Campus
RST Building, Room S-101
6:00pm-8:30pm

Turn a dream into reality today.
Call 1.888.522.0103 or email us at MAT2@michigan.org to find out if MAT²® is for you. Applications for MAT²® are now available here.

*In exchange, the student commits to remaining on the job for at least two years after the training period ends.
MAT²® Application Process

1) Apply for Admission to Oakland Community College and
2) Sign up to take the COMPASS test at HFCC or OCC

COMPASS Test Instructions:
Applicants must complete COMPASS testing at Oakland Community College.

➢ IT is important to PREPARE to take the COMPASS tests.
➢ Here are some sites you can use to review:
  http://www.learnatest.com/LEL/index.cfm/learningCenter/collegePreparation/College_Placement_Prepare_LEL/COMPASS_Prepare

To complete step two, please follow the college-specific instructions provided below.

Oakland Community College*

  • OCC Application & Testing Instructions
  • OCC MAT²® Authorization to Release Student Information Form

*If taking the Compass Test at OCC students must first create an account to obtain a Student ID# before taking the Compass Test.

**Note this process will take a minimum of 24 hours so please begin the process immediately.

Students may be exempted from taking the COMPASS English test if they meet any of the following conditions:

  • Have scored one of the following on the ACT exam with combined English & Reading sub-scores of:
    38 or higher with minimum of 18 on each test
      (students scores must total at least 38 between the 2 subtests, so one score must be at least 20, if one score is 18 to reach the minimum score of 38)

Students may be exempted from taking the COMPASS MATH Placement test if they meet any of the following conditions

  • You have documentation of ACT scores showing 22 or higher on the math subtest within the past 2 years

http://www.mitalent.org/mat2/ (information compiled by Barbara Karchin, CVS - 12.12.13)
Complete the MAT2 online application

MAT2 Application Link:
http://centigrade.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_cUakYDB8mB9O3d3

Before opening the MAT2 application, make sure all of the documentation identified below is available electronically. If a student needs assistance, please contact Ms. Barbara Karchin, CTE Career Consultant via e-mail: bkarchin@cvs.k12.mi.us to set up a meeting to work through the MAT2 application process including resume writing and interviewing preparation.

Note: Students will need to upload the following documents into their online application:

a) A scanned copy of their COMPASS Scores (or ACT scores)
b) Authorization to Release Student Information Form
c) A letter perfect current Resume
d) A excellent Letter of Recommendation from a current instructor and/or employer who can write about the strengths of the MAT2 applicant’s ability to succeed in the Michigan Advanced Technician Training program.

MAT2® Online Application

*Please note that MAT2® students will receive their school assignment once they are admitted into the program. The initial application/COMPASS testing location (e.g. OCC or HFCC) WILL NOT influence your MAT2® school placement. Both schools will share a standardized curriculum and teaching elements, so students can expect an equal educational opportunity at each college.

*The information and testing results from steps above will be reviewed by the MAT2® application committee.

Minimum Compass Scores Required

The following are minimum compass scores required to ensure a successful admission to the MAT2® program:

Oakland Community College

MAT2® ready:
- Writing + Reading combined >150 and
- Algebra >40
Needing Remediation in case of employment, but admitted to career fairs:

- Writing + Reading combined 100-149 with:
  - Writing >60
  - Reading >30
- Pre-Algebra score of 37-100
- Algebra 0-39

If applicants do not meet the minimum requirements, it is suggested to take the recommended courses outlined in your Compass results report. Applicants are encouraged to retake the COMPASS test and submit their scores upon successful completion of the recommended courses for reevaluation.

For assistance with COMPASS and helpful resources to prepare yourself, please visit [http://learnlab.hfcc.edu/sites/learnlab.hfcc.edu/files/compass_resources.pdf](http://learnlab.hfcc.edu/sites/learnlab.hfcc.edu/files/compass_resources.pdf)

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What to Expect

Steps Following the Initial Application:

7. All applications will be screened for eligibility. Applicants who have passed all requirements will be forwarded into a pool and informed about upcoming career fair events and dates, as they become available. Because program communications could take place via email, it is critical that applicants monitor their emails during the application process.

8. Applicants who did not pass COMPASS requirements will be advised to take a remediation course. Upon completion of the course, applicants may retake the COMPASS test(s) and be forwarded into the career fair pool if all requirements are met.

9. For the second round of application, invited applicants will attend an employer career fair where they will have an opportunity to meet with and learn more about the participating MAT2® companies. Once applicants have met with the participating companies, they will have a chance to submit a ranking of their preferred employers. Based on the initial application, applicant preference, and brief interview, companies will invite selected applicants to attend interviews at their individual locations.

Company Fair Tips & Information

10. For the third round of application, invited applicants will tour the specific company locations for both group and individual interviews. Employers reserve the right to administer company-specific tests during this process, in order to define best company-applicant fit.

11. Accepted applicants into the MAT2® Mechatronic Technician Program will receive a notification and job offer. Student-company matches will consider student and employer preferences. Applicants reserve the right to accept/decline any offers.

*Information regarding the career fair location and interview schedule will be emailed to the invited applicants prior to the event.

How to be a successful applicant

This program is seeking applicants who are motivated to be part of a new and innovative technical education system within the State of Michigan. Acceptance into this program means being part of an innovative, leading edge approach to education. Completing the following are crucial steps towards being a successful applicant and part of this elite group.

- Complete the application in a timely manner
- Follow the application process
- Monitor the website for program updates, tips and information
- Monitor emails for program communications
- Attend company fairs when invited-RSVP accordingly
- Feel free to ask questions at any time by emailing: MAT2@michigan.org