

# Career Opportunities in Tooling & Machining

A career in tooling and machining probably isn't what you think it is. Mention 'machine shop' and most people imagine a dark, dingy, dirty room full of grease and machines. But that's a thing of the past; today's shops are clean and high-tech. The truth is, machining has been given a bad reputation when in reality, it is an exciting, prosperous career that can lead to lucrative opportunities down the road.

## Did you know...

**Toolmakers and precision machinists make money while they train - no college degree required**

Wages for toolmakers and precision machinists - during training - are on par with the wages a business major might earn after 4 or 5 years at a university. Plus, machinists do not have tuition bills or loans to repay.

**Machinists earn more than you think**

Aerospace, automotive, metalworking and machine shops not only employ a large majority of all machinists, they also pay well. Precision machinists working in these top 4 industries earn, on average, **\$42,744 a year\***.

**Start here, go anywhere**

Precision machining provides a practical basis for a career in engineering or business management.

**There are plenty of job openings for talented, young machinists**

With many seasoned machinists approaching retirement, an increasing number of career opportunities are opening for young, well-trained machinists.

**Today's shops are clean and high-tech**

CNC machines, just-in-time production methods, lean manufacturing techniques, along with great housekeeping and state-of-the-art facilities give a more accurate picture of American manufacturing today.

**Many toolmakers eventually own their own business**

The typical shop brings in sales of \$2 million per year and was founded by a 35 year-old precision machinist.

**American manufacturing is making a comeback**

In the past decade manufacturing jobs have been sent overseas to countries like China where labor is much less expensive. However, rising manufacturing costs overseas and movements like the Reshoring Initiative are bringing manufacturing jobs back to the states (reshorennow.org).

**Top industries pay big bucks**

Machinists working in top paying industries - like natural gas distribution, metal ore mining and electric power generation, transmission and distribution - earn, on average, **\$30.50 per hour**.

## Tooling & Machining Industry At a Glance

# of Companies	21,212
# of Employees	263,993
Annual Sales	\$36.5 Billion

For up-to-date information and to download this flyer please visit [us.gfac.com/COF](http://us.gfac.com/COF)

Note: the average incomes in all categories:  
+ Vary approximately +/- 35% based on location and skill level.

+ Machinists qualify for overtime while most salaried employees do not.

Sources:

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics May 2010 | U.S. Census Bureau 2007 | Salary.com | NTMA | TMA | PMPA Last Updated September 2011

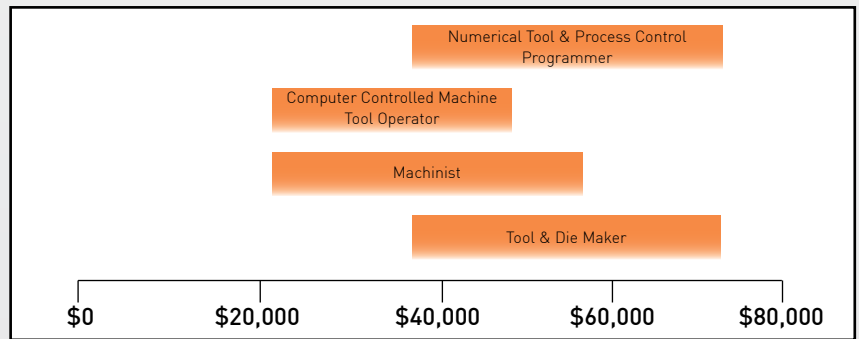
\*Based on 50 hour workweek (10 hours overtime)

\*\*Salary only

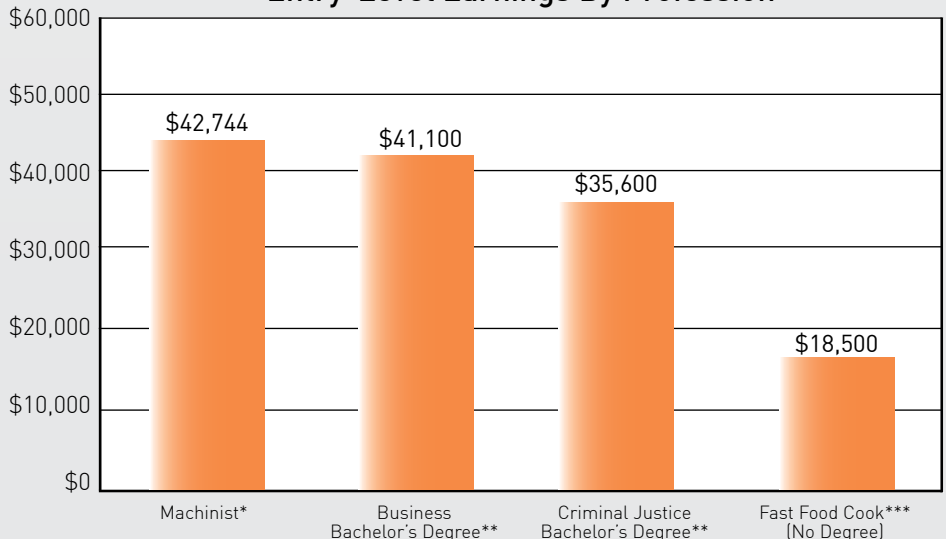
\*\*\*40 hours per week for 52 weeks



## Salary Ranges by Career in Tooling & Machining



## Entry-Level Earnings By Profession



# Learn How to Get There



## Industry Resources & Associations

### National Tooling & Machining Association (NTMA)

6363 Oak Tree Blvd.  
Independence, OH 44131  
800.248.6862    ntma.org

### American Mold Builders Association (AMBA)

3601 Algonquin Road Suite 304  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008  
847.222.9402    amba.org

### National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS)

10565 Fairfax Boulevard Suite 203  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
703.352.4971    www.nims-skills.org

### Precision Machined Products Association (PMPA)

6700 West Snowville Road  
Brecksville, OH 44141  
440.526.0300    PMPA.org

### Tooling & Manufacturing Association (TMA)

1177 S. Dee Road  
Park Ridge, IL 60068  
847.825.1120    tmanet.com

### Tri-State Tooling & Manufacturing Association

339 Van Voast Avenue  
Bellevue, KY 41074  
(859) 431-8862    www.tristatetma.com

### Precision Metalforming Association (PMA)

6363 Oak Tree Blvd.  
Independence, OH 44131  
216.901.8800    pmaef.org

## NTMA Training Facilities

**ALABAMA**  
Gadsden 256.549.8164

**ARIZONA**  
Tucson 520.206.7134  
Phoenix 602.286.8615

**CALIFORNIA**  
Santa Fe Springs 562.404.4295  
Ontario 909.947.9363  
Norwalk 562.921.3722

**COLORADO**  
Colorado Springs 719.540.7484

**OHIO**  
Cleveland 216.987.3195  
Dayton 937.512.2378

**FLORIDA**  
Clearwater 727.538.7167

**ILLINOIS**  
Rockford 815.921.3003

**INDIANA**  
Indianapolis 317.921.4955  
South Bend 574.289.7001

**MARYLAND**  
Catonsville 410.455.4401

**MICHIGAN**  
Benton Harbor 800.252.1562  
Grand Rapids 616.234.3800  
Warren 586.445.7515

**MISSOURI**  
Kansas City 816.482-5620  
St. Louis 314.371.0236

**NEW YORK**  
Rochester 716.292.3760

**NORTH CAROLINA**  
Jamestown 336.334.4822

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Meadville 814.333.2415  
Erie 814.868.9900  
Pittsburgh 412.258.6620

**RHODE ISLAND**  
Warwick 401.825.2156

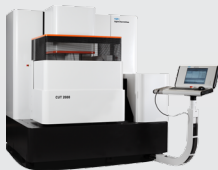
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