

## **FUTURE48 WORKFORCE ACCELERATORS**

Arizona is a **national model** for innovative and successful workforce development programs. Our collaborative approach brings together government, academia and industry to develop comprehensive, award-winning, and scalable solutions.

The **Future48 Workforce Accelerators** represent Arizona's latest workforce advancement, connecting students with the skills and know-how needed for jobs in the state's growing advanced manufacturing industry.

### **What are the Future48 Workforce Accelerators?**

The Future48 Workforce Accelerators represent partnerships between the Arizona Commerce Authority, community colleges, and industry to offer **customized training for in-demand jobs**. The program is modeled after the successful Drive48 facility.

A collaboration between the ACA, Central Arizona College, Pinal County, the City of Casa Grande, and Lucid, Drive48 features multiple assembly robots and individual training rooms to prepare workers for jobs in automotive manufacturing. Since 2021, more than 2,000 students have graduated from Drive48 with new, advanced skills.

In 2022, the State of Arizona committed \$30 million to scale Drive48's success to up to six new advanced manufacturing training centers, known as Future48 Workforce Accelerators, serving sectors such as **semiconductors, battery manufacturing, aerospace and defense, and more**.

**//Cutting-edge companies are investing in Arizona and our workforce.  
The Future48 Workforce Accelerators in Yuma and Kingman will provide new  
opportunities to reach all of our workforce and diverse communities.//**  
- Governor Katie Hobbs



### ***Arizona Western College in Yuma***

- The Yuma accelerator will offer workforce training in **electrical technology, advanced manufacturing, broadband fiber optics**, and **solar installation** in support of the region's aerospace and defense industries.
- The partnership will include a 5,600-square-foot expansion of the Wellton Manufacturing Training Center on the Arizona Western College campus.
- Industry partners include TRAX International, the United States Army Yuma Proving Ground, the General Motor Proving Grounds, the Gowan Company, Allo Fiber, D&H Electric, Sunray Electric, Yuma Electric and more.
- The project is expected to be completed in 2024.

### ***Mohave Community College in Kingman***

- The Kingman accelerator will support Mohave County's growing **manufacturing, transportation, and mining industries**.
- The Future48 Workforce Accelerator will take the form of a more than 30,000 square-foot facility at Kingman Airport and Industrial Park.
- Industry partners include NUCOR Steel, Kingman And Mohave Manufacturing Association, Progressive Pipe, Arizona Sommers Cooling and Heating and more.
- The project is expected to be completed in early 2025.

### ***Maricopa Community Colleges in Phoenix***

- In November 2023, Governor Hobbs announced a partnership with Maricopa Community Colleges to offer a customized, industry-led training pathway at the state-of-the-art microelectronics facility.
- In collaboration with industry partners such as Intel and TSMC, the facility will serve as a first-of-its-kind training accelerator for Arizona's rapidly growing semiconductor industry.

### ***Central Arizona College in Casa Grande and Apache Junction***

- In March 2021, the ACA launched Drive48 in partnership with Lucid, Central Arizona College, the City of Casa Grande, and Pinal County.
- The state-of-the-art facility is outfitted to prepare workers for jobs in automotive manufacturing.
- Roughly 2,400 individuals have graduated from the program with a job waiting after.
- In April 2024, Arizona launched its newest accelerator in support of the state's growing battery manufacturing sector.
- Launched in partnership with Pinal County, Central Arizona College, LG Energy Solution, the ACA, and more, the Pinal County Accelerator will offer workforce training focused on the manufacturing process of cylindrical lithium-ion batteries, used for electric vehicles and other technology applications.

### **The Arizona Advanced Technology Network (AATN)**

- Led by the ACA in partnership with community colleges and local manufacturers, AATN provides a unified, industry-recognized curriculum to develop 21st-century manufacturing skills needed for high-paying, high-tech jobs.
- Launched during the 2019-2020 school year, the program has attracted an enrollment of more than 3,600 students and is in process of expansion to additional community college districts in the state.

### **Advancing Arizona's Workforce Excellence**

With a fast growing population and excellent higher education institutions, Arizona is consistently recognized as a leading state for workforce development.

According to [Lightcast](#), Maricopa County ranks no. 1 for Talent Attraction and Retention, while the state holds the 4th-highest growth in education attainment and the 5th-highest growth in skilled jobs.

On average, roughly 260 people move to Arizona every day, according to recent Census data. Between July 2020 and July 2021, Maricopa County experienced the largest numeric population growth (58,246) in the nation. The Phoenix-Mesa-Chandler metro also experienced the fastest net migration (70,097) and domestic migration (66,850) growth in the country.



*An automotive assembly robot used to train technicians at Drive48 in Coolidge.*