The Anoka Technical College Machine Technology Certificate 3 is a 16-credit program that prepare students for entry-level positions to operate and perform offset changes, as well as basic setups on the following equipment: CNC mills, CNC lathes, coordinate measuring machine and CAD/CAM.

Program graduates are skilled in the areas of blueprint reading, GD&T, statistical process control, lean manufacturing, math, inspection and the correct sequence of operation.

Program Learning Outcomes

- The student will demonstrate machine skills and practices consistent with the manufacturing industry.
- Exhibit safety principles and practices in a manufacturing environment.
- Communicate effective use of machine shop theory and process terminology.
- Work efficiently as a member in a machine shop environment to manage time and meet project deadlines.
- Work effectively as a member of a team while accepting constructive criticism.

Industry and Career Outlook

The machinist is a skilled metal worker who produces metal parts by using machine tools and hand tools. Training and experience enable the machinist to plan and carry through all the operations needed to turn out a finished machine product and to switch readily from one kind of product to another. The machinist’s background and knowledge enables him/her to turn a block of metal into an intricate, precise part.

All options are an art as well as a skill, and are considered to be demanding occupations. There is a great variety in the construction of dies and molds, depending on the design of a part, the type of materials used, the ingenuity of the designer, and the knowledge and skill of the die and mold maker, who must machine intricate components of various tooling to tolerances expressed in fractions of one-thousandths of an inch.

Wage information is available from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.