

RETURN TO WORK: UTAH UNIQUELY ABLED MACHINIST PROGRAM

How It Can Help:

Utah manufacturers face a growing shortage of skilled CNC machinists. UAMP solves this by training adults with autism—who bring precision, consistency, and attention to detail—into job-ready CNC machinists. Participating companies benefit from:

- A new, reliable talent pipeline
- Employees who thrive in structured, process-oriented environments
- Reduced turnover through career coaching and job retention support
- Support in onboarding and accommodating neurodiverse workers

Detail Description:

The Utah Uniquely Abled Machinist Program (UAMP) is a 12-week CNC machinist training program created through a partnership between:

- Columbus Community Center
- Salt Lake Community College
- Uniquely Abled Academy
- Utah Manufacturers Association
- Vocational Rehabilitation

Program includes:

- 300 hours of technical CNC training at SLCC
- 60 hours of soft-skills and job-readiness instruction
- Employer site visits, mentorship, and hands-on experience
- Ongoing coaching and support for both employee and employer

Graduates are trained and ready to fill roles such as:

- CNC Operator
- Machinist Apprentice
- Mill/Lathe Technician

How Much Does it Cost

There is no cost to participating manufacturers. Vocational Rehabilitation covers student tuition and coaching. Long-term sustainability is supported by employer participation fees and industry investment.

What Can I Expect:

- Pre-hire introductions to students
- Access to a curated talent pool of job-ready candidates
- Onboarding support, including job coaching and workplace accommodations
- Close collaboration with program staff throughout the training and placement process
- 85% job placement success rate (national Uniquely Abled Academy average)

How to Get Started:

- Schedule a facility tour for students
- Join our employer info session
- Host a student for job shadowing or mentoring
- Commit to hiring from an upcoming cohort