

## **My career success story: I'm employed! How a student without career direction found his passion!**

Since graduating high school, Schaumburg resident, Nick Williams had worked in a variety of jobs, including several cashier positions at different retail stores. In college he completed some general studies coursework, but had little direction and had not found careers that interested him. Recently he landed his dream job at [Dynamax Incorporated](#). With headquarters located in the Chicago area, Dynamax Inc. designs, manufactures and develops high-precision machined components and more, for some of the largest companies in the aerospace, defense, transportation, energy and medical industries.



**Nick Williams, MCIP Participant**

In this story, he shares just how that happened.

Last fall, Nick was working as a lube technician at a local auto services store, when a friend told him about the [Manufacturing Careers Internship Program](#) (MCIP). Initially Nick was not sure he was interested in this program, because he didn't know much about the manufacturing industry or the types of jobs available in that industry. That chance conversation changed Nick's life. Through the Manufacturing Careers Internship Program, Nick learned about career paths, the variety of jobs available and training needs in the manufacturing industry.

### **What is MCIP?**

Business & Careers Services, Incorporated (BCS), which manages the Illinois workNet Center in Arlington Heights, created the Manufacturing Careers Internship Program. BCS teamed up with Medusa Consulting to design a program that exposes youth to opportunities in the manufacturing industry and provides a pipeline of workers desperately needed by area manufacturers.

Although not defined initially as a specific goal, permanent job offers have been offered to a high percentage of youth participants, *making the MCIP program even more powerful*. The program is funded by the Workforce Board of Northern Cook County.

### **How MCIP works**

Interested people between the ages of 18 – 21 years can apply to MCIP. The program offers a multi-step approach that provides youth with a 10-week, industry-based training module which includes a two week boot camp and an eight week, paid internship. During the boot camp, group members receive an overview of the manufacturing industry, tour major employers, complete an OSHA safety certification and then participate at a specialized job placement fair. They then complete the internship.

### **Nick's Success**

During the boot camp employer field trips, Nick learned more about today's manufacturing environment and possible careers. His internship at Dynamax included learning about:

- Shipping & receiving operations
- NC machining & programming
- Machine setups
- Basic inspection & measuring tools
- Spindles
- CNC bench work & machining
- And tool crib operations

Tessa Bergmans, Dynamax Human Resources said, "From day one, Nick brought a positive attitude to the workplace, and took the initiative to ask insightful questions. He was dedicated to his assigned job tasks, and continuously showed interests in advancement. We are happy to announce that he will be joining the Dynamax Apprenticeship Program upon completion of his internship!" She continued, "Dynamax looks forward to meeting similar applicants at future MCIP events."

"Nick Williams was a terrific participant in the Manufacturing Careers Internship Program; it gave him direction and helped him determine the course of his career," said Amanda Rothenburger, Business & Careers Services Inc., Youth Services Coordinator.

Nick said, "I learned so much during the Manufacturing Careers Internship Program. It is one of the best programs around." He added, "The MCIP helped me to finally realize that manufacturing is the career for me!"

For more information about careers in the manufacturing industry and the MCIP program, email Amanda Rothenburger, Youth Services Coordinator at [arothernburger@worknetncc.com](mailto:arothernburger@worknetncc.com) .