

# Press Release



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## Duke Energy \$50,000 grant enhances workforce programs at the Tampa Bay Advanced Manufacturing Institute

Pinellas County, FL – CareerSource Pinellas is excited to announce its second year partnering with the Duke Energy Foundation to support workforce development in the Tampa Bay Region. The \$50,000 grant will establish new training programs and enhance current curriculum for the Tampa Bay Advanced Manufacturing Institute located at the Science Center.

The Institute offers courses to assist individuals seeking career development through short-term, customizable training programs. These programs are designed to, provide participants the knowledge and experience required for occupations in high demand. The immersive learning provides the opportunity to test equipment, learn to use instruments and understand manufacturing workflow processes without the operational risks otherwise present on the manufacturing floor.

“Thanks to the support from Duke Energy we will have unskilled labor converted to a new employee with a bright future in a growing industry sector in a matter of weeks,” states Edward Peachey, President and CEO of CareerSource Pinellas.

Currently Soldering & Cable Fabrication, 3D Digital Fabrication, and Industrial Machine Maintenance programs are being offered at the Institute. Part of the grant funding will establish the Mechatronics & Robotics program, a multidisciplinary combination of information that blends knowledge in electronics, mechanics, and computer programs. Upon successful completion of training, students earn stackable, portable certificates, career counseling and assistance with referrals to help them obtain gainful employment.

“Duke Energy is proud to support CareerSource Pinellas,” said Harry Sideris, president of Duke Energy Florida. “We invest in workforce development initiatives to help create a skilled workforce and make a positive impact in the communities we serve. These programs enable local residents to receive training in high-demand fields and land opportunities with businesses in the region.”

To learn more about programs offered at the Tampa Bay Advanced Manufacturing Institute visit [www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org](http://www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org).

### About CareerSource Pinellas

CareerSource Pinellas establishes workforce development and training policies for Pinellas County. For more information on our valuable, no cost resources for businesses and job seekers, please visit [www.careersourcepinellas.com](http://www.careersourcepinellas.com).

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### About the Duke Energy Foundation

The Duke Energy Foundation provides philanthropic support to address the needs of the communities where its customers live and work. The foundation provides more than \$30 million annually in charitable gifts. The foundation's education focus spans kindergarten to career, particularly science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), early childhood literacy and workforce development. It also supports the environment and community impact initiatives, including arts and culture.

Duke Energy employees and retirees actively contribute to their communities as volunteers and leaders at a wide variety of nonprofit organizations. Duke Energy is committed to building on its legacy of community service. For more information, visit <http://www.duke-energy.com/foundation>.

Duke Energy is a Fortune 125 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available at [duke-energy.com](http://duke-energy.com).

The Duke Energy News Center serves as a multimedia resource for journalists and features news releases, helpful links, photos and videos. Hosted by Duke Energy, illumination is an online destination for stories about people, innovations, and community and environmental topics. It also offers glimpses into the past and insights into the future of energy.

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