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Autry Technology Center Offering New Training Opportunities for Those Affected by COVID-19

ENID, Okla. – Autry Technology Center is prepared to assist those who have lost employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic with new training opportunities, designed to address the skills gap in the Enid community.

According to a skills gap analysis for Western Oklahoma on Oklahomaworks.gov, the skills gap deficit is 34% (comparing 2019 educational attainment level with new jobs in 2025) for those with an associate’s degree, certificate, credential and some college. Autry Technology Center worked with 10+ plus local industry partners to address a need for a specific skilled position – Industrial Maintenance Technicians.

“We know a lot of people are looking for a new career path right now and we are prepared to help them find it,” said Autry Tech Superintendent/CEO Brady McCullough. “The Industrial and Mechanical Technology program is a tremendous opportunity to gain 12 months of hands-on training for careers that are in demand right here in our community!”

In Oklahoma alone, there were 4,691 jobs for Industrial Machinery Mechanics. That number is expected to grow to 5,528 (increase of 959) by 2028. The position averages 526 annual openings and has a median hourly wage of \$23.66.

The Industrial and Mechanical Technology program, set to begin June 1, 2020, is the first to launch at Autry Tech’s new property at 1802 N. Van Buren in Enid. The adult-only training is designed to train technicians to install, repair and maintain commercial or industrial machinery in buildings, a plant or a manufacturing setting. These technicians ensure all machines function properly through troubleshooting and preventative maintenance service.

Classes for the 12-month program are scheduled 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tuition for in-district students is \$1,840. Financial aid options are available for qualified students.

Applications for the Industrial and Mechanical Technology program are available now and due by May 29. For more information about the program or to apply, visit autrytech.edu or call (580)242-2750.

Autry Technology Center has been a part of the Enid community since 1967 and is one of 29 CareerTech schools across Oklahoma. The center has more than 25 career programs and offers a wide variety of evening and weekend short-term courses and certifications for many diverse career fields. Autry tech serves nearly 16,000 individuals each year, including many area employees who receive training through the Business and Industry Services Department that works with over 500 local businesses each year.

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