

**To:** Governor Glenn Youngkin  
Senator Louise Lucas, Chair of Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee  
Delegate Luke Torian, Chair of House Appropriations Committee

**From:** Jason El Koubi, President & CEO, Virginia Economic Development Partnership

**Date:** June 28, 2024

**Re:** Advanced Manufacturing Talent Investment Program Report

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During the 2022 General Assembly Special Session, funding was provided in Item 487.50 (B)(5) of Chapter 2 of the 2022 Acts of Assembly, Special Session I (the Budget) that directed the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority (VEDP) to establish the Advanced Manufacturing Talent Investment Program (AMTIP) and Fund, pursuant to section 23.1-1244 of the Code of Virginia. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) is responsible for administering the program and distributing the funds.

The Fund was created to increase the number of trained individuals entering advanced manufacturing careers and to improve the readiness of graduates to be employed in identified advanced manufacturing fields. Funds were designated for existing programs serving the Hampton Roads and Southwest Virginia regions (Growth and Opportunity Virginia (GOVA) Regions 1 and 5) and other named institutions.

The Budget also requires this report be submitted to the Governor, the Chairs of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee, and relevant staff.

Attached, you will find the a progress report the Advanced Manufacturing Talent Investment Program (AMTIP) and Fund.

## Advanced Manufacturing Talent Investment Program Report

The Advanced Manufacturing Talent Investment Program (AMTIP) and Fund, established pursuant to section 23.1-1244 of the Code of Virginia, was created to increase the number of trained individuals entering advanced manufacturing careers and to improve the readiness of graduates to be employed in identified advanced manufacturing fields. Funds were designated for existing programs serving the Hampton Roads and Southwest Virginia regions (Growth and Opportunity Virginia (GOVA) Regions 1 and 5) and other named institutions.

The General Assembly approved funding in Chapter 2 (2022 Special Session I), Item 487.50 (B)(5). \$2,500,000 was designated for a pilot fund in FY23-24. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) is responsible for administering the program and distributing the funds.

### Round 1 of Applications

An initial request for proposals (RFP) for the program was released with an application window of July 10 – August 18, 2023. Applicants could request funding between \$50,000 and \$250,000. Eleven eligible applicants submitted proposals. VEDP convened a group of experts to review the applications and make award recommendations on August 29, 2023. A follow-up meeting was held on September 18. The reviewers elected to fund two projects fully:

Institution	Project Title	Award Amount	Amount Disbursed
Southwest Virginia Community College	SWCC's Integrative Advancement: Mechatronics Enhancement & Expansion in Advanced Manufacturing and Electrical Electronics	\$215,025	\$189,788.48
Virginia Highlands Community College	Advanced Manufacturing Enhanced Capacity Initiative	\$249,980	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$465,005</b>	<b>\$189,788.48</b>

The performance date for these two projects is October 31, 2024. The awardees submitted interim reports on April 30, 2024, for project activities through March 31, 2024. Both projects are primarily on track. Southwest Virginia Community College submitted its first request for reimbursement with its interim report. They were approved for the requested \$189,788.48. Virginia Highlands Community College has not yet submitted a request for reimbursement. Final reports and requests for reimbursement for both projects are due November 29, 2024.

### Round 2 of Applications

After the initial round of applications, \$2,034,995 of the AMTIP funds remained. The review committee decided to release a second RFP to distribute these funds. The original RFP was revised based on reviewer feedback after the first round of applications. The most significant revision was to increase award amounts to between \$100,000 and \$500,000. The awardees from the first round were eligible to apply for an additional \$100,000 to \$250,000.

The second RFP was released with an application window of March 1 – April 15, 2024. Eleven eligible applicants submitted proposals. One additional applicant did not meet basic eligibility requirements. The review committee met to make award determinations on May 10, 2024. They elected to fully fund three projects and partially fund four additional projects:

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Giles County Technology Center	Modernize Precision Machining Technology Program	\$233,800
Mountain Empire Community College	Precision Machining	\$214,555
Tidewater Community College	TCC Welding Program Capacity Building	\$458,100,30
Tazewell County Public Schools	Crafting the Advanced Manufacturing Workforce of Tomorrow	\$344,009.21
Virginia Highlands Community College	Welding Expansion Initiative	\$212,565
Virginia Peninsula Community College	Expanding Welding Workforce Capacity for Maritime Defense	\$457,233
Wythe County Technology Center	Enhancing WCTC Welders	\$114,724
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,034,986.51</b>

The performance date for these seven projects is March 31, 2025. Interim reports are due November 30, 2024, and final reports are due April 30, 2025. As of June 10, 2024, four of the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) have been fully executed; the remaining three will be executed by June 30, 2024.

Between the two awards from the first round and the seven awards from the second round, all but \$8.49 of the \$2.5 million AMTIP fund were awarded.

### **Final Report**

Once all reports and requests for reimbursement have been submitted and reviewed, a final report about the AMTIP program will be submitted by June 30, 2025.