

Greetings from Kentucky!



An update from LeeSa Page, MSSC Senior Advisor:

"Kentucky welcomed 2020 with unseasonably warm temperatures and a bright outlook for many MSSC initiatives. While you may think it's all bourbon and horses in our great Commonwealth, Kentucky is a leader in many workforce development initiatives related to the MSSC. With a wide presence throughout the state, the MSSC has seen steady growth of the CLT program in Western and Northern Kentucky, the implementation and growth of the CPT and Skill Boss in manufacturing-related programs in Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS in Louisville), and recently, the award from the Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship (PAYA) to JCPS. The development of young people in advanced manufacturing careers is especially exciting, and the following provides details on a couple of these initiatives:

- In May 2019, the Jefferson County Public School System (JCPS) was awarded a 17-month planning grant from PAYA to help grow youth apprenticeship in three key areas – advanced manufacturing, health care and IT – with a goal to create a plan for growing opportunities for youth apprenticeships in high demand occupations that can be replicated in other areas of the state and the country. Even before the award, JCPS had been active with youth apprenticeship: supporting over 100,000 K-12 students and with various positions available within the school system, JCPS recognized a unique opportunity to become a registered sponsor for youth apprenticeship programs in these and many other areas. In addition to the youth apprentices they have hired for multiple job openings, JCPS has hired three high school students currently earning their CPT for the Industrial Manufacturing Technician (IMT) Youth Apprenticeship program. On January 16, JCPS - with Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer, KentuckianaWorks, Greater Louisville Inc, the MSSC and several companies - celebrated students at an apprenticeship signing day with their respective employers. [Click here](#) for coverage and [click here](#) for more information on the grant.
- In October 2019, GE Appliances (GEA), a Haier Company, installed a complete manufacturing line at Doss High School in Louisville to complement the school's manufacturing program, which uses the CPT as their industry-credential for graduation requirements. GE Appliances is one of many Academies of Louisville employer partners in the region who support the high school students through their donations of equipment, projects and job opportunities. Since 2016, 19 Doss students have earned their CPT. [Click here](#) for a GREAT video on this opportunity GEA has created for students!
- The number of high schools in the Louisville area that uses CPT in their manufacturing programs has seen growth from 1 school in 2016 to 5 by the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

As you can see, there are some great things happening and many more opportunities for Kentucky manufacturers, their employees, and their prospective new hires in the coming year. The MSSC looks forward to being a part of these endeavors."

Want to get in touch with LeeSa? Reach her at lpage@msscusa.org