



MANUFACTURING
SKILL STANDARDS
COUNCIL

MSSC Nationwide Certification Programs For Front-line Technicians in Manufacturing and Logistics (M&L)

DESCRIPTION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Officially endorsed in 1998 by the federal National Skill Standards Board, the MSSC, an industry-led, 501(c)(3) non-profit, is America's leader in training and certifying the foundational technical competencies for front-line technicians (entry-level up to first line supervisory) in advanced manufacturing and supply chain logistics.

The full suite of MSSC's nationwide certification programs for front-line technicians in M&L is described below. They all share attributes that have made MSSC the nation's Gold Standard in its field:

Quality Assurance:

- *Standards-based:* All begin with industry-developed, nationally validated skill standards, which MSSC updates every 2-3 years with industry subject matter experts to keep pace with technological change and industry best practices. The complete national standards documents for each MSSC certification are available upon written request to info@msscusa.org
- *Third-party accredited:* The International Accreditation Service audits MSSC programs annually to ensure that they conform with ISO quality standard 17024 (Personnel Certification). To meet ISO requirements, MSSC maintains a firewall between its certification assessment activities, supported by NOCTI Business Solutions, and its eLearning courses, supported by separate providers, Amatrol and Opus Works.
- *Industry-recognized:* Over 500 corporations and 20 national trade associations have participated directly with MSSC in developing and validating its M&L Standards.

- *Industry Association endorsed:* The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) has endorsed MSSC for both M&L. MSSC also partners with the Material Handling Industry (MHI) and the Material Handling Equipment Distributors Association (MHEDA).
- *Nationally portable and deliverable:* Through a network of 2,797 MSSC Authorized Instructors and 1,845 MSSC Authorized Assessment Centers, mostly at secondary schools and community colleges, and 72 MSSC Training Solution Providers in all 50 states.

Getting Started- MSSC programs all require MSSC Authorized Assessment Centers and MSSC Authorized Instructors before courses and assessments can be delivered. MSSC provides detailed “Getting Started” documents upon request for each of its certification programs.

Courses- All MSSC program courses are available online through world-class, computer simulation-based technologies. Schools typically deliver these in a “blended” learning environment in which the instructor plays an active role both in classroom instruction and in assisting students with computer-based training. MSSC delivers most of its courses, assessments, and instructor training online for students working at home on their PCs.

Hands-on- In addition, MSSC offers hands-on training and assessments, using innovative “Skill Boss” devices invented for MSSC by Amatrol, the nation’s leading manufacturer of industrial technician training equipment.

Credit- Schools may offer MSSC programs either for credit or not for credit. Some community colleges also offer dual credit articulation agreements whereunder secondary school students can get both high school credits and community college credits.

Discounts - MSSC offers volume discounts to individual schools and even lower-cost “annual unlimited licenses” to individual secondary schools and larger state consortia of postsecondary schools. Check with your state MSSC Training Solution Providers for details.

Assessments- Assessments for each MSSC credential take about 90 minutes.

MSSC TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

In Manufacturing:

Certified Production Technician (CPT) 4.0 Program

Organized under five Modules & Assessments:

- Safety
- Quality Practices & Measurement
- Manufacturing Processes & Production
- Maintenance Awareness
- Green Production

Course length: Each course is recommended 35-40 hours of instruction

Credentials: MSSC provides an industry-recognized “CPT 4.0 Certificate” for each assessment that the student passes, and a “Full CPT 4.0 Certification” for those who pass the first four assessments above. The addition of “4.0” to the credentials clarifies that the MSSC has upgraded its standards to add nine newly-emerging, data intensive “Industry 4.0” technologies: 5G, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Additive (3D), Industrial Internet of Things (IIOT), Autonomous Robots, Data Analytics, Augmented Reality, Advanced Materials, and Nanomanufacturing.



CPT+ Skills Boss Hands-on Program: Students in the Certified Production Technician (CPT) program also have the opportunity to secure a ***hands-on*** “CPT Plus” certification using the “Skill Boss-Manufacturing” training and assessment device invented by Amatrol. CPT+ requires that students pass all four CPT Assessments, as well as all four CPT+ hands-on assessments.

High School Pre-apprenticeship Program: The U.S. Department of Labor has approved this as a “Quality Pre-apprenticeship” program. It has two components:

- **Related Training-** Provided in a secondary school by a MSSC Authorized CPT+ Instructor, this training requires an additional 15 hours of hands-on training for each of the first four CPT Modules and a final hands-on assessment. Students must complete the hands-on training for Safety and Quality in their junior year and hands-on training for Manufacturing Process & Production and Maintenance Awareness in their senior year.
- **On-the-Job Learning-** Paid OJL in the summer of their junior year and the same in their senior year (total 560 hours)

In Logistics:

Certified Logistics Technician (CLT) Program

Organized under two Modules and Assessments :

- **Certified Logistics Associate (CLA)- Entry-Level**
- **Certified Logistics Technician (CLT)- Mid-Level Technical**

Course Length: Each course is recommended 35-40 hours of instruction

Credentials: MSSC provides an industry-recognized “Certificate” to students who pass the CLA Assessment and a “Full Certification” to students who pass both the CLA and CLT Assessment.

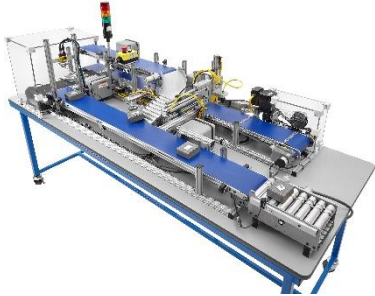
Certified Forklift Technician (CFT) Program

Organized under a single, *55-hour* course focused on the repair and maintenance of forklift vehicles. When individuals complete the assessment based on that course, they receive a “Pre-Qualification Award.” That Award then qualifies them to take a hands-on assessment administered either by a forklift dealer or qualified community college, needed for the CFT Certification.

Credentials: Full CFT Certification

Certified Technician in Supply Chain Automation (CT-SCA)

Organized under three separate Certifications:



- **Equipment Maintenance- *EM***
- **Equipment Repair- *ER***
- **Network Repair- *NR***

Hands-On: Using the “Skill Boss-Logistics” training and assessment device invented by Amatrol Inc.

Course length: The courses for each of these certifications last about 160-170 hours