The Uniquely Abled Academy

Training people with special skills for specialized needs in the workforce.

The Uniquely Abled Project

A NEW PROGRAM FOR A NEW WAY OF THINKING.

Because the words we use shape the way we think, when looking through the lens of the word "disabled," we tend to think about what's missing in a person. As a result, we often miss seeing the unique capabilities these people have. The BHAG (big, hairy, audacious, goal) of The Uniquely Abled Project is to shift the paradigm of thinking from "disabled" to "uniquely abled". It starts with an innovative job-training program for people with high functioning autism — The Uniquely Abled Academy.

HIGH FUNCTIONING AUTISTIC STUDENTS. HIGH PERFORMING JOBS.

It's been observed that jobs requiring individuals with a high degree of focused attention to detailed repetitive processes, and following clear objective instructions are well suited for a person with high functioning autism. Indeed, these characteristics are a perfect match for the duties of a CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machine operator, of which there is a huge shortage in the manufacturing industry today. The Uniquely Abled Academy is designed to fill this gap with a new source of talent.

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COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING AND SUPPORT

The Uniquely Abled Academy training program for CNC operators is as distinctive as the individuals it serves. Provided are the instruction, learning and testing for students to achieve technical proficiency, as well as work readiness skills and job placement assistance. In addition, the program extends into the workplace with on-going support for both employee and employer.

AN EXCEPTIONAL COMMUNITY OF DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS

The Uniquely Abled Academy is a first-of-its-kind collaboration between machine technology educators, specialists in education for those with autism, representatives from state and local social service agencies, and non-profit and for-profit organizations. This exceptional combination is dedicated to properly train, place in the workforce and provide on-going support for qualified students seeking skill-specific well-paying jobs within the manufacturing industry.

NOW OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT:

THE UNIQUELY ABLED ACADEMY AT GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRINCIPLES OF NUMERIC CONTROL

This is a 10-week program, with 240 hours of in-class instruction led by a faculty member of the department of Machine Technology at Glendale Community College, plus 60 hours of focus on job readiness, soft skills, site visits, and open laboratory.

Students will learn to program, setup, and operate CNC machines combined with using quality control instruments, shop mathematics and blueprint reading. Graduates will qualify for a number of entry-level positions, including machine trainee, machinist apprentice, CNC operator, and CNC programmer.

SETTING EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS

All students must be 18 years of age or older, meet the minimum requirements, and take part in an on-site interview. Students may qualify for assistance with tuition and other services.

Our Minimum Requirements:

1. Show competence in organizational skills that reflect the ability to function independently in social and academic settings
2. Exhibit competence in reading, basic math and computer comprehension, specifically show the ability to identify main idea, make inferences and integrate disparate ideas.
3. Demonstrate improved social competency including skills in self-advocacy, independent living and social collaboration.
4. Demonstrate improved skills in the appropriate use of language in a social content by applying a variety of communication skills.
5. High School or GED diploma, and be prepared for a variety of post secondary and career opportunities.

For more information, please contact us at info@uniquelyabledproject.org.