



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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Community Foundation creates new apprenticeship opportunity for skilled trades

LANSING, MICH. – The [Community Foundation](#) has dedicated funding for apprenticeship opportunities to help area businesses struggling with talent shortages in the skilled trades. The foundation’s pilot partner is Lansing-based company [Niowave, Inc.](#) to offer Mechatronics apprenticeships to grow its own skilled workforce. The Community Foundation is hoping to offer the program to other qualified partners.

Beginning this summer, Niowave will select and employ apprentices part-time while they are enrolled in a two-year Mechatronics program at Lansing Community College. Apprentices will take electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and robotics-related courses while receiving practical industry training from Niowave. The Community Foundation will pay for their tuition, fees and books. After completing the apprenticeship, students will receive an Associate’s Degree in Mechatronics and full-time employment with Niowave. Those interested in applying can send their resumes and cover letters to Amanda Grimm at amanda@niowaveinc.com.

“If Niowave is to double in size in two years, we need as many welders, machinists and technicians as we can get,” said Amanda, a nuclear engineer with Niowave. “This Mechatronics program is just the start to a much larger pipeline with LCC. Students benefit through paid part-time employment and fully-funded tuition, and Niowave benefits because we can tailor these students’ skills to our niche industry.”

“The Community Foundation has always supported education at many levels, but education alone is not enough when talent leaves the region,” said Laurie Baumer, executive vice president of the foundation. “This apprenticeship will create skilled talent for our region’s workforce, forging a clear path to economic growth for the community and furthering the mission of our Community Foundation to create vibrant, prosperous communities.”

Mark Cosgrove, dean of technical careers at LCC, added: “We certainly are excited to partner with both Niowave and the Community Foundation to provide the formal education piece for Niowave’s internal apprenticeship program in Mechatronics. Their apprentices will receive technical instruction that has been custom-designed to complement the skillsets needed at Niowave. We will use the new LCC Center of Manufacturing Excellence for this training, which allows students to gain skills in hydraulics, pneumatics, and electronics using state-of-the-art equipment and technology.”

continued

The Community Foundation is passionate about creating vibrant, thriving communities throughout the Capital Region. The Foundation works with donors to meet their unique charitable goals, supports area nonprofits with grants and coaching, and leads innovative projects that drive community growth. The Community Foundation (also known as the Capital Region Community Foundation) is a tax-exempt public charity that serves the charitable needs and enhances the quality of life for people in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties.

Niowave was founded in Lansing, MI in 2005 and has become a world-wide leader in research, development, manufacturing and operation of superconducting electron linear accelerators. Niowave's platform technologies are its particle accelerators and subsystems which are commercialized as stand-alone sources and as turnkey systems for the following applications: medical and industrial radioisotopes, radiography and active interrogation, sterilization and advanced manufacturing, and nuclear energy advanced technologies. For more information on Niowave, contact 517-999-3475.

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