

Industry partnerships will help ensure instruction and equipment are state-of-the-art.

Moreover, this proposed \$40–\$45 million makeover of the PCC Downtown Campus will transform the important intersection of Speedway and Stone Avenue.

Partner with PCC

By partnering with industry to update curriculum, equipment and facilities in a cutting-edge Center of Excellence, PCC will be positioned to draw students and business from Arizona and beyond, helping to make Tucson a destination of 21st century workers and employers from around the world.

To contribute your ideas or to learn more, contact:

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Pima Community College Center of Excellence for Applied Technology

Pima Community College is preparing a significant investment in workforce development. With employer input and support, the Center of Excellence for Applied Technology at the Downtown Campus will enhance the region's workforce and strengthen our community.



PimaCommunityCollege

Center of Excellence for Applied Technology

Thanks in large part to advances in technology, workforce education and training needs are changing rapidly. Pima Community College recognizes that educators must adapt quickly to meet employers' needs and is laying ground work for a multi-million dollar Applied Technology Center of Excellence at the Downtown Campus.

The College seeks employer input and support from business and industry for a Center of Excellence developed with employers and today's students in mind.

Designed to allow for flexibility, high-touch/high-tech training, and innovative learning, the Tucson region's Center for Excellence at PCC will be a reflection of the standards and expectations of area employers, and a key player in regional economic development.

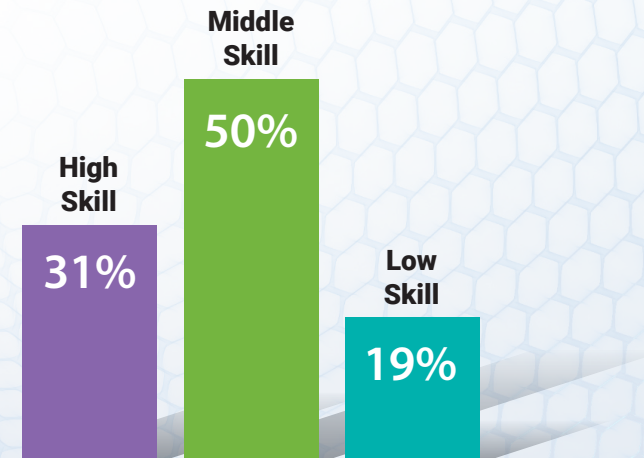
The skills gap is widening

Employers are on the front lines of a widening skills gap that threatens productivity and the ability to expand. Employers say that a majority of current employees are not sufficient in technology and computer skills, lack basic technical training and lack problem solving and math skills.

The Manufacturing Institute reports that 6 out of 10 open skilled production positions are unfilled due to a talent shortage.

The National Skills Coalition reports that middle skill jobs, which require more than high school but less than a 4-year degree, account for 53 percent of Arizona's labor market, yet only 47 percent of the state's workers are trained to the middle skill level.

Job Openings by Skill Level, Arizona 2014–2024



Source: National Skills Coalition



Further, through 2025, 50 percent of job openings in Arizona are expected to be middle skill.

Jobs that that once didn't require higher education from manufacturing to automotive technology to construction technology now require at least some post-secondary education.

Meeting workforce needs

Fortunately, PCC is well positioned to address these needs, but it will require building upon our strong partnerships throughout the community and a commitment to creating programs and facilities that transform the educational experience.

A vision for a manufacturing floor, maker space, automotive and diesel technology labs, CAD and robotics, labs and more, requires bold steps. The College's current 1970s facilities lack space and structure to accommodate necessary technology, equipment and educational practices required today.

Pima Community College's Educational and Facilities master plans call for not only for major strides in facilities, but also in the quality and structure of our programs. College reorganization and innovative steps toward educational and career pathways, are improving efficiency and helping students be more successful.

An investment in community

The Center of Excellence is envisioned to meet the ever-changing needs and technology advances of today's workforce.

Strategic partnerships with economic development agencies, educators and employers will allow the college, through traditional college programs and customized Workforce options to address current and emerging needs.

Reflecting current workplace environments, labs should provide real work experiences.

