



March 12, 2026

TO: THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF VALENCIA COLLEGE

FROM: DR. KATHLEEN PLINSKE
President

RE: ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING ASSEMBLY PROGRAM

Electronics Manufacturing and Assembly skills form the technical foundation for a wide range of high-value industries—including aerospace and defense, medical devices, semiconductors, autonomous systems, and space technologies. As production technologies advance and supply chains continue to shift, the demand for technicians who can assemble, inspect, test, and maintain complex electronic hardware is increasing at a pace that outstrips current workforce supply.

National and regional labor shortages, fueled by an aging workforce and limited public awareness of modern manufacturing career pathways, have created an urgent talent gap. Central Florida is experiencing these shortages acutely, with impacts on manufacturing capacity, schedule reliability, and long-term competitiveness. The talent gap also poses a strategic risk, given the region's growing role in aerospace, defense, and space-related manufacturing.

To address these needs, and in direct response to workforce requests from one of the region's largest manufacturers, Lockheed Martin, the College has developed a new Electronics Manufacturing Assembly Technician Program. The program is a 400-hour Accelerated Skills Training program that prepares students to enter the workforce as electronics and wire harness assembly technicians. Students will be prepared to earn nationally recognized credentials for soldering, wire harness fabrication and assembly, and aerospace-level quality and inspection credentials. This program supports Florida's workforce priorities in aerospace, defense, and high-tech manufacturing and strengthens Central Florida's long-term competitiveness.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The President recommends that the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College authorize the College to offer the Electronics Manufacturing Assembly Program as a non-credit Accelerated Skills Training program, with student fees set at \$7,000, as presented.



President