

Welding Technology Pathway

A MODEL OF INDUSTRY-ALIGNED WORK-BASED
LEARNING IN ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

What It Is

The Welding Technology Pathway at La Porte High School prepares students for in-demand careers by blending classroom instruction with hands-on learning. Through a partnership with New York Blower, students gain direct experience with industry tools, techniques, and environments, including contributing to the production of industrial fans and working in a lab they helped design. This work-based learning experience connects students to real manufacturing tasks, certification opportunities, and career exploration aligned with industry standards.

What Students Do

Students participate in an in-depth program that includes:

- Mastering technical welding skills and safety protocols
- Engaging in over 25 hours of hands-on instruction and applied learning
- Shadowing professionals in the field and touring local facilities
- Preparing for and taking an industry-recognized welding certification exam
- Demonstrating competencies aligned to Indiana's CTE and industry standards

EXPERIENCE SNAPSHOT

School

LaPorte
High School

**Location**

LaPorte, Indiana

**Industry**

Advanced
Manufacturing

**Participants**

High School
Juniors & Seniors



VALUE FOR EMPLOYERS

Work-based learning isn't just about giving back—it's a strategic investment in your future workforce.

- Promote awareness of your industry
- Build a pipeline of career-ready talent
- Strengthen your company's community presence
- Lower hiring and onboarding costs
- Foster innovation by engaging young minds
- Improve long-term retention through early exposure

Industry Involvement

New York Blower hosts job shadows and tours, donates equipment and materials, offers on-site certification exams with Certified Welding Inspectors (CWIs), and serves as a strategic partner to align training with industry needs. Their support ensures students gain hands-on experience that connects directly to coursework and career pathways.

How Employers Can Get Involved

Whether you're interested in supporting an existing program like the Welding Technology Pathway or launching your own work-based learning experience, Ascend Indiana can help. We provide:

- Program design and implementation support
- School and CTE center connections
- Access to funding and workforce partners

Discover how Ascend Indiana can support your business in launching or expanding work-based learning opportunities at

www.ascendindiana.com.

Workplace Simulation Definition

Mirrors a live workplace setting and may include facilities, inputs, resources, and equipment provided by the employer or the school.