

Career Focus on...

Computer-Aided Design

Introduction

- Are you interested in working in today's manufacturing or design industries?
- Do you want a career that mixes your creative abilities with highly technical skills?
- Would you like to obtain the specialized knowledge required for a position in an exciting growth industry?

If you answered "yes" to these questions, you may want to consider a career in Computer-Aided Design (CAD).

Did You Know... ?

- A CAD certificate is a step towards employment in a variety of creative and technical fields.
- Employees with CAD and other manufacturing technology skills are in high demand for a variety of positions in large and small industry.
- Most positions in modern manufacturing demand a professional qualification, such as a CAD certification.
- A certificate can be a first step towards earning an Associate's degree. Students who complete an Associate's degree at QCC may be able to transfer to a variety of schools to continue their education.

Computer Aided Design @ QCC

The CAD Certificate at QCC prepares graduates for entry-level technician/design positions in the Computer-Aided Design and Computer-Aided Manufacturing (CAM) industries.

The Certificate in Computer-Aided Design can be completed in one year, depending on the student's background. This certificate utilizes the latest CAD software and equipment available in today's rapidly changing world. The curriculum supports the skill standards defined by the National CAD Standards (published by the National Council for Advanced Manufacturing). All of the courses required for this Certificate can be applied to the Associate in Science degree in Manufacturing Technology.

Career Options

COMPUTER-CONTROLLED MACHINE OPERATOR

Median Annual Salary: \$35,220
Recommended Education: Some college
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/51-4011.00

MECHANICAL DRAFTER

Median Annual Salary: \$49,200
Recommended Education: Some college
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/17-3013.00

INDUSTRIAL DESIGNER

Median Annual Salary: \$58,230
Recommended Education: Bachelor's degree
www.bls.gov/ooh/arts-and-design/industrial-designers.htm

INTERIOR DESIGNER

Median Annual Salary: \$46,280
Recommended Education: Bachelor's degree
www.bls.gov/ooh/arts-and-design/interior-designers.htm

Worcester Area Employers

- AKUITY Technologies
- Bose
- Charter Communications
- City of Worcester
- Dielectrics, Inc.
- Electric Boat Corporation
- Metso Automation
- Mitutoyo America
- Peterson Spring (Commonwealth)
- QuEST Global Engineering
- SAIC
- Second Generation Energy LLC

Next Steps

Wondering if Computer-Aided Design is right for you?

- Take a Career Assessment to match your interests with potential careers:
www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#careerassess
- Research the web links on this *Career Focus* page, as well as links suggested online under Career Information: www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#careerinfo
- Conduct an Informational Interview with someone employed in the field. For more information on how to do this, review the Informational Interview links online:
www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#infointerview
- Attend a Career Planning Session. For more information, and the current schedule, visit Career Academic Personal Success (CAPS) online:
www.QCC.edu/services/academic-advising/career-academic-personal-success
- Speak with an Advisor:
www2.qcc.mass.edu/advising/
- Speak with QCC Faculty who teach Computer-Aided Design courses.

Sources Used

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition*:

- Biochemists and Biophysicists:
www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/biochemists-and-biophysicists.htm
- Biological Technician:
www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/biological-technicians.htm
- Biomedical Engineers:
www.bls.gov/ooh/architecture-and-engineering/biomedical-engineers.htm
- Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians:
www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/medical-and-clinical-laboratory-technologists-and-technicians.htm
- Medical Equipment Repairer:
<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/medical-equipment-repairers.htm>

Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, "Fastest Growing Occupations Through 2014."

Quinsigamond Community College, Online Course Catalog:

- Biotechnology Technician Certificate:
<http://www.qcc.edu/academics/technology/biotechnology-technician>

Professional Associations

- Association for Computer-Aided Design In Architecture:
www.acadia.org
- American Design and Drafting Association:
www.adda.org
- The CAD Society:
www.cadsociety.org
- The United States National CAD Standard:
www.nationalcadstandard.org

Positions Entered by QCC Graduates

- CAD Operator
- DCCM Project Engineer
- Drafter/Designer Technician
- Field Service Engineer
- Inside Machinist
- Metrology Technician
- Solar Panel Layout Designer

Employment, Co-op, Internship, or Service Learning Opportunities

Contact the Career Placement Office:
www.qcc.edu/pages/Career_Placement.html

Possible Transfer Schools

- Assumption College
- Becker College
- Clark University
- Fitchburg State University
- Northeastern University
- UMass Amherst
- UMass Lowell
- Worcester State University

Specific Transfer Information

- Start at the QCC Transfer web site:
www.qcc.mass.edu/transfer
- Make an appointment online with the Transfer Advisor: www.qcc.mass.edu/transfer/calendar
- Email questions to:
transfer@qcc.mass.edu