

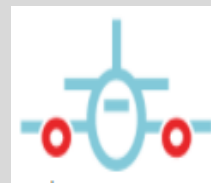


Manufacturing Career Pathways

Advanced Manufacturing & Materials, Aerospace

South Central Kansas

January – March 2026



Manufacturing: 3,934 JOBS	PRODUCTION	QUALITY ASSURANCE	MAINTENANCE	ADMINISTRATIVE & CORPORATE
<u>Graduate or Post Graduate</u> (4+ years) 180 JOBS (Hourly Rate)	<u>Research and Development Senior Engineer</u> 25 JOB POSTINGS \$53.16 - \$106.02	<u>Research and Development Senior Engineer</u> 26 JOB POSTINGS \$53.16 to \$106.02	<u>Senior Engineer, Robotics Engineer</u> 51 JOB POSTINGS \$20.16 to \$106.02	<u>Attorney, Executive (CEO/VP)</u> 78 JOB POSTINGS \$31.24 to \$115+
<u>Bachelor Degree</u> (4 years) 1,044 JOBS (Hourly Rate)	<u>Engineer, Plant Manager</u> 187 JOB POSTINGS \$31.95 to \$97.80	<u>Supply Chain Manager, Plant Manager</u> 198 JOB POSTINGS \$36.53 to \$97.80	<u>Operations Manager, Industrial Automation Engineer</u> 326 JOB POSTINGS \$22.92 to \$88.75	<u>Accountant, Analyst, Financial, Human Resources, Marketing, Sales Executive, Supply Chain</u> 333 JOB POSTINGS \$18.49 to \$115+
<u>Associate Degree</u> (2 years) 192 JOBS (Hourly Rate)	<u>Production Technician, Junior Engineer, Engineer Technician, Drafter Production, Assembly Lead, Machine Operator, CNC Technician or Programmer, Machinist, Supply Chain, Production Control</u> 57 JOB POSTINGS \$17.33 to \$61.20	<u>Production or Assembly Lead, Quality Technician, Electrical Technician, Inspector, Supply Chain, Production Control</u> 30 JOB POSTINGS \$17.38 to \$52.71	<u>Production Technician, Junior Engineer, Engineer Technician, Automation Technician, Industrial Maintenance Technician (non-janitorial)</u> 77 JOB POSTINGS \$17.38 to \$53.92	<u>Accounting Clerk, Contract Assistant, Payroll Clerk, Safety Coordinator</u> 28 JOB POSTINGS \$14.00 to \$39.27
<u>Technical Certificate & Credentials</u> (1-2 years) 925 JOBS (Hourly Rate)	<u>Advanced Production, Welder, Machine Tending, Material Handling, Forklift Driver</u> 367 JOB POSTINGS \$14.77 to \$41.78	<u>Inventory Planner, Quality Assurance Technician</u> 113 JOB POSTINGS \$18.00 to \$40.87	<u>Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic, Maintenance (non-janitorial), Welder</u> 381 JOB POSTINGS \$18.23 to \$43.62	<u>Customer Service, Sales Assistant</u> 64 JOB POSTINGS \$25.40 to \$59.40
<u>High School or GED</u> 1,593 JOBS (Hourly Rate)	<u>Production/Assembly, Shipping/Receiving</u> 581 JOB POSTINGS \$15.05 to \$36.06	<u>Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers/Weighers, Inventory Clerk</u> 255 JOB POSTINGS \$13.49 to \$37.68	<u>Janitorial, Light Maintenance (non-janitorial)</u> 614 JOB POSTINGS \$10.00 to \$21.21	<u>Office Clerk, Receptionist, Telephone Operator</u> 143 JOB POSTINGS \$7.72 to \$27.49

2026 Q1 Summary (Compared to 2025 Q1)

All Industries: 24,062 Jobs (↑ 7.6%) from 3,714 Companies (↑ 0.2%)

Manufacturing 3,475 Jobs (↑ 20.7%) from 349 Companies (↑ 2.9%)

Job postings found at www.kansasworks.com

Wage Data found at www.onetonline.org

Online comparison cost and earnings data from KS colleges and universities graduates at www.ksdegreestats.org

Additional Career Data at www.klic.dol.ks.gov