

# Creating Pathways to Rewarding Electronics Careers

Electronics manufacturers worldwide face a growing talent crisis. Our world runs on electronics, but the companies that bring these products to life are struggling to find, train, and retain skilled workers. Two out of three employers in the electronics industry report that workforce limitations are limiting their growth.

Today, many students and career-seekers are unaware of the opportunities this industry offers. Despite advanced, high-tech work environments, many still view manufacturing as low-skill or low-growth. At the same time, experienced employees are retiring, taking valuable institutional knowledge with them. These sector-wide problems need a sector-wide solution.

### HOW THE GLOBAL ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION IS HELPING

The Global Electronics Association is working to close this talent gap and create brighter futures with a comprehensive workforce development strategy. We help members attract new talent, upskill existing employees, and retain a motivated, future-ready workforce.

# **Electronics U**

by Global Electronics Association

#### **OUR SOLUTIONS INCLUDE:**

#### **Training & Certifications**

The Association delivers thousands of basic, intermediate, and advanced courses each year, certifying tens of thousands of specialists in globally recognized standards. These stackable credentials validate skills and unlock career growth.

#### **Apprenticeships**

U.S. Department of Labor-registered programs provide "earn and learn" pathways into critical electronics specialties, creating opportunities for existing workers to gain new skills and take on new roles.

#### **More Career Pathways**

Partnerships with schools, universities, and employers build structured advancement routes — from entry-level to advanced engineering and leadership roles — making electronics a visible and attractive career choice.

#### **The Electronics Foundation**

Our nonprofit arm engages students through STEM programs, scholarships, and mentorship, sparking interest early and connecting young talent to industry leaders.

#### **Awareness & Advocacy**

The Association advocates globally for pro-workforce government policies and public-private investments to strengthen the industry talent pipeline.

#### A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

While the Global Electronics Association is working to support sector-wide efforts, cultivating talent is a team sport. Government, educational institutions, and companies must also invest in the workforce, giving both new and incumbent workers opportunities to learn and progress.

The good news is that investments in talent tend to pay off:

- Companies that invest in employee development double their retention rate, thereby decreasing costly churn in recruiting and hiring.
- Apprentices, on average, show a 44% return on investment (generating \$144 in benefits for every \$100 invested).
- Companies with apprenticeship programs also report improved company culture, reduced turnover and an improved pipeline of skilled workers, and even improved co-worker productivity.

Working in partnership with employers, the Global Electronics Association can create flexible, robust talent pipelines that support a growing industry.

## **LEARN MORE**

<u>Building Electronics Better: A Plan to Address the Workforce Challenges Facing the Electronics</u>
<u>Manufacturing Industry</u>