

## **Celebrating Excellence: Kevin Foster's Outstanding Achievement at the National Machining League Championship**

We are thrilled to announce a remarkable accomplishment by one of our own—**Kevin Foster of Palmyra**—who has demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication in the field of precision machining.

### **A Journey of Skill and Determination**

Kevin, a student in the Precision Machining Program at the Lebanon County Career and Technology Center (LCCTC), embarked on a challenging journey by participating in the inaugural **National Machining League** competition, hosted by **Project MFG**. This competition, sponsored by the **U.S. Department of Defense**, aims to elevate the next generation of highly skilled trade professionals by changing mindsets, fostering community support, and highlighting the prestige of manufacturing careers.

The competition began in October 2024, with 45 schools from across the United States entering students into the first round. Each school was permitted to submit up to three students, with only one advancing to the national stage. Kevin was selected to represent LCCTC, showcasing his exceptional talent and commitment.

### **Rising to the National Stage**

In January 2025, Kevin and LCCTC received the exciting news that he was among the top 16 students nationwide invited to compete in the National Championship. The final competition took place over three days at **Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC)** in Belleville, Illinois.

The event schedule was rigorous:

- **Day 1:** Eight hours dedicated to programming.
- **Day 2:** Eight hours focused on machining.
- **Day 3:** Industry tours, providing competitors with insights into leading manufacturing facilities.

During the industry tours, Kevin had the opportunity to visit **Seyer Industries**, a premier aerospace company, as well as **Chelar Tool & Die** and **General Machine**. These experiences offered invaluable exposure to cutting-edge manufacturing processes and potential career pathways.

### **Achieving National Recognition**

Kevin's hard work and perseverance culminated in an outstanding **2nd place finish** at the National Championship, earning him a \$5,000 prize. This achievement not only highlights Kevin's individual excellence but also underscores the quality of education and training provided by LCCTC's Precision Machining Program.

### Looking Ahead

Kevin Foster's success serves as an inspiration to his peers and a testament to the bright future of skilled trades in our community. His journey reflects the importance of dedication, skill development, and the support of educational institutions in achieving excellence.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Kevin and express our gratitude to the educators and mentors who have supported him throughout this journey. His accomplishment brings pride to Palmyra, LCCTC, and the broader community, exemplifying the potential and promise of our students in the skilled trades.













