



North Central Pennsylvania
Pressed Materials Consortium

Shape Your Future with a Career in Pressed Materials

From the shop floor to the innovation lab—opportunities at every stage.

Pressed Materials can be found in everything from electric vehicles to medical devices. It's an industry poised for growth which means more jobs, more training opportunities, and more ways to build a meaningful career. Whether you're entering the workforce, changing careers, or already working in manufacturing—this is an industry where hands-on skills are valued, training is available, and growth is real.



Example Career Paths and Average Annual Salaries by Education Level

Education Level	Entry Roles / Avg. Annual Salary	Growth Potential / Avg. Annual Salary
High School Diploma	Press Operator, Quality Technician \$40K - \$45K	Die Setter, Production Supervisor, Controls Specialist \$70k - \$75k
Vocational Certificate	CNC Machinist, Maintenance Technician \$45K - \$50K	Tooling Specialist, Automation Integrator \$62k - \$75k
Associate's Degree	Quality Inspector, Process Technician \$45 - \$58K	Lab Technician, CAD Designer \$64k - \$80k
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	Materials Engineer, Manufacturing Analyst \$105K - \$108K	Plant Manager, R&D Lead \$114k - \$140k

From the Floor Up: Career Pathways in the Pressed Materials Industry

Whether you prefer **hands-on technical work, process innovation, or leadership roles**, there's a place for you in the pressed materials industry. Training programs, mentorship, and on-the-job learning mean **you can grow where you are—or go as far as you want to go.**

Discover your path today and start building a career that shapes the future of manufacturing.

Start as a Press Operator

Learn tooling setup and maintenance

Apply leadership, training, and process skills

Advance to Die Setter or Machinist

Move into Floor Supervisor or Quality Control

Gain experience with precision, troubleshooting, and production flow

Take on Management, R&D, or Technical Lead roles

With continued upskilling and experience

Careers in Pressed Materials are rooted in tradition, driven by innovation, and ready for the future.



Want to know more? Visit pressedmaterials.org or contact our Regional Innovation Officer, John Williams at jcw5919@psu.edu