



**NATIONAL
WELDING
MONTH**

**NATIONAL
WELDING
MONTH**

**30
YEARS
CELEBRATING WELDING**
SINCE 1996

WELCOME TO NATIONAL WELDING MONTH 2026!

Each April, we celebrate **National Welding Month**—and 2026 marks 30 years of honoring the welders who build, innovate, and connect our world. For three decades, this observance has recognized the professionals whose work holds our world together—from bridges and buildings to energy, transportation, and advanced manufacturing.

This year's theme, "**Celebrating Welding Since 1996**," highlights three decades of National Welding Month—recognizing the people, projects, and innovation that have shaped the industry and continue to drive it forward.

This media kit provides everything AWS District Directors and Sections need to make NWM 2026 a success in their communities: **ready-to-use social media graphics, event planning guides, and messaging resources to engage and inspire your audience.**

Thank you for 30 years of dedication to advancing the welding industry.

Let's make this milestone year one to remember!

Key Messaging

“Certified to build the world, welders power infrastructure, manufacturing, and innovation across the globe. This National Welding Month, we celebrate the skilled professionals who make modern life possible.”

– Carey Chen, AWS Executive Director and CEO

About Welding

- ◆ Welding is the joining of two or more materials through heat or heat and pressure, forming a bond between two pieces of metal or plastic.
- ◆ There are more than 80 welding processes.
- ◆ Welding is used to build ships, automobiles, planes, and space vehicles.
- ◆ Welding is used in construction of buildings, bridges, pipelines, power plants and oil refineries.
- ◆ Welding is used in the manufacturing of small electronic devices, medical equipment, and nanotechnology.
- ◆ Advancements in materials, processes, and equipment, make modern welding an increasingly high-tech skill.

Industry Outlook

- ◆ Advancing manufacturing technology creates more uses for welding in the workplace and is expanding opportunities.
- ◆ New materials are creating a greater need for a highly educated and innovative welder workforce.
- ◆ Automation reinforces the need for skilled machine operators.
- ◆ There is an increased emphasis on skilled workers with identifiable credentials to ensure quality.

Career Outlook

- ◆ The U.S. will need over 320,000 welding professionals by 2029.
- ◆ Many welders are highly skilled problem-solvers working in the aerospace, automotive, electronics, construction, manufacturing, oil and gas and shipbuilding industries.
- ◆ A welding career can lead to financial security, career advancement and important work in areas around the world.
- ◆ Find the most recent welding workforce data and projections at weldingworkforcedata.com

Stay Connected



aws.org



**NATIONAL
WELDING**
MONTH

**NATIONAL
WELDING**
MONTH

30
YEARS
CELEBRATING WELDING
SINCE 1996

| Here are resources to help in your **2026 National Welding Month**

Key Resources

Promotional Tools – AWS National Welding Month Logo

We've updated our National Welding Month resources for this year's special 30 year celebration. Click [HERE](#) to access all of our brand resources.

Promotional Videos

AWS Videos

- ◆ [AWS 2026 NWM Promo Video](#)
- ◆ [AWS ARCAcademy Playlist](#)
- ◆ [Metal America Series](#)
- ◆ [What It's Like to Be a Welder Playlist](#)
- ◆ [Welding Career Burning Questions](#)



| Social Media Engagement Guide

Campaign Hashtag: **#NWM2026**

Our goal with National Welding Month is to show as many people as possible how important our industry is, and how rewarding a career in welding can be. That's why using the campaign hashtag is so important. It ensures we are all sharing a common message.

Sample Post Ideas

The Weld Wednesday Podcast – National Welding Month Special Episode

- ◆ The special NWM Weld Wednesday with AWS podcast airs Wednesday, April 8, 2026. Listen to the episode at weld.ng/podcast and join host Jason Becker and his special guests, as they discuss unique career paths in welding, sharing how they got started, what skills matter most, and what advice they have for anyone exploring a future in the trade.

What It's Like To Be A Welder Playlist and Video

- ◆ The American Welding Society has created a series of videos designed to teach people about the welding profession. The videos highlight how welding plays a role in various industries. The entire playlist, or individual videos, are great content to be shared across your social media channels.

Tag local and national influencers in your social media posts

- ◆ Tagging social users or pages that have many followers helps to amplify your message. Welding is an industry with global importance, and the welder shortage has been discussed by national media in recent years. Tagging these entities means they could share or retweet your message and broadcast it to a huge audience.

Increase your impact by encouraging AWS Section membership

- ◆ Use your social media channels to post how being an AWS Section member has helped you to Increase Your Impact. Section Members are the foundation of AWS, and there's no better way to spread the word about our industry than through your endorsement and referral. Need some inspiration? Check out our [YouTube videos](#) for post ideas.

Stay Connected



aws.org



**NATIONAL
WELDING**
MONTH

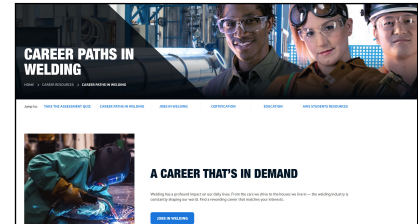


**30
YEARS**
CELEBRATING WELDING
SINCE 1996

| Careers in Welding

While our industry still needs people behind hoods using torches and making sparks, other welding career paths are also in high demand. Welding Technicians can use computers and robots, and more skilled tradesmen become inspectors, supervisors, researchers, engineers and owner operators. Learn more about the different careers available in the welding industry.

Which career path would best suit you or your students? Use our assessment to help guide the decision-making process. [Take the Assessment Quiz](#)



For a complete listing of National Welding Month Activities, Visit aws.org/nationalweldingmonth

Stay Connected



aws.org