



**GOING DEEPER
REACHING HIGHER**

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**IMPACT REPORT
2024-2025**



American Welding Society®
FOUNDATION

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Many years ago, the American Welding Society coined the phrase, “Welding for the Strength of America.” The tagline appeared on banners, stickers, and t-shirts, reminding AWS members of their unique role in ensuring a safe and strong United States. Over time, the tagline faded away, but perhaps it is time to bring it back.

The United States is entering a new era—a manufacturing renaissance unlike any other in recent decades. Factories are returning to American soil, defense production is accelerating to meet global challenges, and rapid technological advancements are unlocking unprecedented opportunities for innovation and growth.

This upward trajectory is challenging an already strained skilled trades workforce. Take, for example, the U.S. Navy’s ambitious plan to increase production of its nuclear-powered submarine fleet to one Columbia-class and two Virginia-class subs annually. U.S. shipyards and suppliers will require more than 140,000 additional skilled workers in the coming years to meet these goals.

To support this effort, the AWS Foundation has partnered with BlueForge Alliance, a non-profit established by the Department of Defense to support the Maritime Industrial Base. You may have seen their commercials on prime-time television or their BuildSubmarines.com NASCAR race car.

This two-year sponsorship adds a dynamic exhibit, branding, and targeted tour stops to the Careers in Welding Tour, helping to promote the exciting opportunities in shipbuilding.

In addition to our ongoing workforce development efforts, our support of welding education continues to grow, with more than \$3 million in scholarships, grants, and research fellowships awarded in 2024.

The AWS Foundation is growing its support for welding educators, with a new initiative sponsored by the Bechtel Group Foundation to provide complimentary Certified Welding Educator seminars and exams for instructors nationwide.

We continue to shine a light on apprenticeship programs as an alternative pathway into the industry. Last year, the Department of Labor approved the National Guideline Standard (NGS) for Welding Inspection, and, in 2025, we will seek approval for a Welding Automation NGS.

The challenge before us is urgent. Your partnership is essential in driving our mission forward. If you are in a position to contribute, we encourage you to consider establishing a scholarship or grant endowment. The AWS Foundation is proud to match 100% of all contributions to both new and existing scholarships and grants, doubling the impact of your generosity. Alternatively, you can support our efforts through a monthly donation at aws.org/donate. By contributing \$5 or more each month, you will become one of our Welding Workforce Torchbearers, promoting welding careers, sustaining the future of our field, and contributing to the U.S. manufacturing renaissance.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support and commitment to advancing the welding profession. Together, we can ensure a prosperous and impactful 2025 for the welding community and beyond.



William A. Rice, Jr.

William A. Rice, Jr.
Chairman, AWS Foundation

2024-2025 AWS FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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Chairman and Past
AWS President
Consultant



Rick Richardson
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Director,
Merit Gas Partners



Carey Chen
Secretary
Executive Director & CEO
American Welding Society



Monica A. Pfarr
Executive Director,
AWS Foundation



2024-2025 AWS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 1993, the AWS Foundation has awarded over 16,000 scholarships, totaling more than \$18 million. Receiving an AWS Foundation scholarship allows welding students to focus on their education and training while turning their passion for welding into a rewarding career.

\$2.6 MILLION AWARDED —→ **64% GROWTH SINCE 2020**

1,688 TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS → **49% GROWTH SINCE 2020**

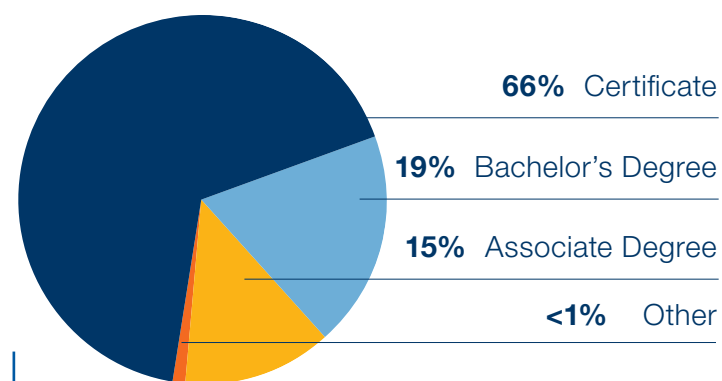


RECIPIENTS ATTEND MORE THAN **400** DIFFERENT ACADEMIC AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS



25% FEMALE OUTPACING THE WELDING INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION RATE OF **6%**

RECIPIENTS ARE ENROLLED IN THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:



SCHOOLS RECEIVING THE MOST SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2024 WERE:

121 - \$350,000 Ferris State University Big Rapids, MI	32 - \$98,500 The Ohio State University Columbus, OH
51 - \$152,500 Pennsylvania College of Technology Williamsport, PA	26 - \$28,500 Tulsa Welding School Jacksonville, FL
49 - \$67,000 Hobart Institute of Welding Technology Troy, OH	25 - \$80,000 Brigham Young University-Idaho Rexburg, ID
43 - \$53,500 Kentucky Welding Institute Flemingsburg, KY	25 - \$38,000 Arkansas Elite Welding Academy Quitman, AR
33 - \$36,000 Western Welding Academy Gillette, WY	24 - \$24,000 Missouri Welding Institute Nevada, MO

The AWS Foundation would like to thank the more than **300 volunteers** whose thousands of hours of work spent reviewing scholarship applications this year made our work possible.



Scan the QR code for the list of all 2024-25 scholarship recipients.



GERARDO MARCIAL-MATIAS
Ferris State University
Hometown: Mulberry, FL
Recipient » Detroit Section Scholarship

"As a first-generation student, I am motivated by the desire to provide a bright future for my family, my community, and society as a whole. All of which is made possible through the generosity of donors like yourself. I am grateful for this scholarship; it allows me to allocate my focus and energy to my studies rather than pondering my return to the classroom."



CLAUDIA SMITH
Nunez Community College
Hometown: New Orleans, LA
Recipient » Shelton L. Ritter Scholarship

"I am immensely grateful and totally thrilled to be selected to receive an AWS Scholarship! This is indeed a much appreciated blessing! My journey as a budding welder has been an exciting and satisfying journey. This learning opportunity is fulfilling a long-standing goal of entering such a time-honored profession that will enable me to contribute to the beautiful architectural iron-work found throughout my beloved city of New Orleans."



ABBY FRISK
Ferris State University
Hometown: New Lisbon, WI
Recipient » Aim High - Jerry Clay Scholarship

"Being a part of the AWS welding community has had a tremendous impact on my just-beginning career. Not only helping with college costs but the connections I've made have shown me many different areas of our very big, but small welding community. Their endless advice and support to a young professional has been huge in guiding me on the path I'm on...I deeply appreciate your support of my education and I look forward to giving back to AWS and future welding students, like you have done for me."



CAMRYN KENNEDY
Peninsula College
Hometown: Forks, WA
Recipient » Chuck Daily Scholarship

"Without scholarships I would be unable to attend college at all, and I wouldn't have the opportunity to have a good career in the future....I understand that you had a lot of people to choose from, and it means so much that you chose me. Scholarships change lives, and I can definitely say that generosity such as this scholarship has changed mine for the better. Again, thank you so much for your kindness, and for investing in my future."



JAMES KING
Hobart Institute of Welding Technology
Hometown: Floyd, VA
Recipient » District Scholarship

"It is such an honor to receive an AWS Scholarship. This will help me to follow my dream of becoming a fine welder and someday becoming a welding inspector. I hope to make the welding community proud. Thank you, Thank you!!"

FULL CIRCLE: ERIN LALINKSY'S JOURNEY FROM AWS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT TO AWS FUTURE LEADER



Erin Lalinsky was meant to be a welder.

Growing up in Ann Arbor, Michigan, she developed a lifelong love for learning that was fueled by her engineering-minded father. Together, they would dismantle old electronics to create what she describes as “abstract art pieces,” which she would present at her school’s science and makers fairs. These early experiences sparked an insatiable curiosity about how things work and a passion for tinkering and craftsmanship.

Those pieces came together at Washtenaw Community College, when a friend, knowing that Lalinsky liked working with her hands, recommended she take a welding course.

It fit her like a glove.

EARNING SCHOLARSHIPS, STARTING STRONG

Lalinsky enrolled in a bachelor’s of science program in welding engineering technology at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan. It was here that she first encountered the American Welding Society.

Lalinsky volunteered to be the student chapter’s photographer, helping out with the group’s social and volunteer activities: ice fishing tournaments, highway cleanups, angel tree gifting, and more. Over the course of her academic career, she received four scholarships through AWS. The funding allowed her to focus on her studies instead of worrying about the debt she was accruing.

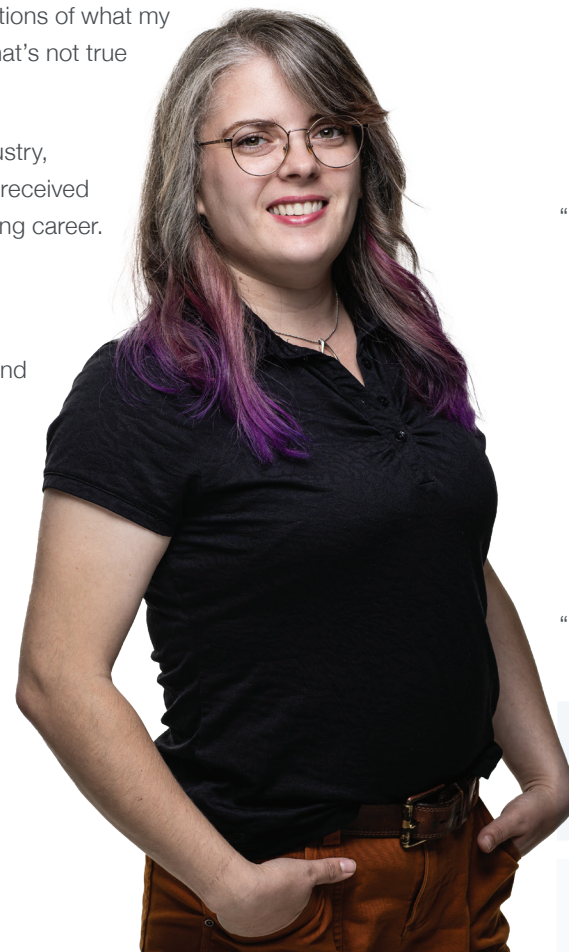
Before graduating, Erin accepted a position as an application engineer at a laser welding manufacturer. “Coming out of college, I really didn’t have that many open-ended questions of what my life was going to look like,” Lalinsky reflects. “That’s not true for the vast majority of students.”

She credits her education in an in-demand industry, her job offer, and the financial support that she received through AWS for removing barriers to a rewarding career.

RISING UP THE RANKS

In her senior year, Lalinsky decided to apply—and was selected—to be the student representative for her district at the annual AWS Leadership Symposium in Miami. There, she met the incoming chair for her local AWS section in Detroit. They met again at a student night that the section hosts every spring to honor new welding grads. She approached him and asked whether there was a role for her there.

“Well doncha know?” Lalinsky recalls him saying (complete with Midwest accent). “All you had to do was ask.”



Lalinsky was brought on to create social media content, and her involvement only grew from there. In 2019, she won a seat in the section’s Certified Welding Inspector seminar, passed the exam, and was then invited to be a test proctor. A year later, she became the certification chair. And recently, the Detroit Section elected Lalinsky to be the third assistant to the section chair, putting her on a path to assume the leadership of the section in 2029.

“They welcomed me with open arms,” Lalinsky says. “They made it simple to step right in and start doing something helpful.”

FUTURE LEADER

As Lalinsky got more involved with AWS, she set her sights on the society’s Future Leaders program. Only two future leaders are chosen each year, making the process highly competitive, and her first two applications were not selected.

“I never minded,” she says, “because I knew it was the best person being selected, which is the best thing for AWS as a whole. So it never really felt like that much of a rejection.”

Lalinsky stuck with it, applying a third time in 2024. She made it through one round of interviews, then was surprised to be invited back for a second. She was nervous, but when she logged on to meet with the selection committee, they offered her the spot.

“I was like, ‘Oh, you sons of guns.’ I got all nervous for nothing,” she says. “But it was a good surprise.”

As a Future Leader, Lalinsky has the opportunity to share her opinions at the AWS’s biannual board meetings as a nonvoting member, work with a mentor from the board of directors, attend FABTECH and training sessions, connect with industry leaders, and more.

As Lalinsky continues to advance—professionally and at the local and national levels of AWS—the craft of welding remains her true passion.

“I really love being a lab rat,” she says. “It feels so good to accomplish whatever goal you set for yourself. To be able to work through whatever problems come up. To say, look, I did that. I figured it out. I made it through all of the issues and mistakes and setbacks, and I conquered it.”

That perspective, earned from her years of hands-on work, doesn’t stand at odds with her increasing exposure to the society’s top management and leadership. It fuels it.

ADVICE FOR ASPIRING WELDERS

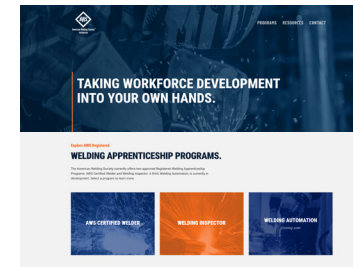
“Be curious, ask questions,” Lalinsky says, “and get involved with AWS.” Local sections are an incredible resource, bringing together knowledgeable welding professionals across every industry, specialty, and job title. “If you have a question, there’s someone with an answer. And the group as a whole can help you find that person,” she says. “On a local level, that is what I really love about the society.”



DIVING DEEP: APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAYS

As companies continue to face challenges finding skilled welding professionals, many have taken the initiative to establish registered apprenticeship programs.

THE AWS FOUNDATION REMAINS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING THESE VITAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS.



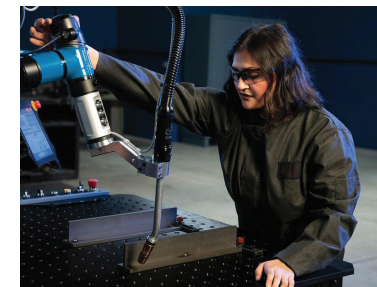
WELDINGAPPRENTICESHIP.COM

To enhance employer access and engagement, the AWS Foundation completed a comprehensive redesign of WeldingApprenticeship.com. The streamlined platform now features approved National Guideline Standards (NGS) and provides employers with a pathway to access resources for welding focused apprenticeship programs.



NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

AWS celebrated National Apprenticeship Week by issuing an official proclamation highlighting the important role of apprenticeships in the welding industry. Additionally, a collaborative webinar between AWS and American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT) focused on registered apprenticeships for Nondestructive Testing and Welding Inspection occupations, further amplifying these efforts.



WELDING AUTOMATION APPRENTICESHIP

This year marked a significant milestone with the Department of Labor's approval of the Welding Inspection National Guideline Standard. Building on this success, the AWS Foundation is currently seeking DOL approval for a Welding Automation NGS to address critical needs in this rapidly growing sector of the industry.

WORLDSKILLS



Wyatt Hansen poses with the stars and stripes after winning the bronze medal at WorldSkills 2024 in Lyon, France.

Wyatt Hansen proudly represented the United States at the 47th WorldSkills Competition in Lyon, France, earning a bronze medal in welding.

The prestigious event, held from September 10 to 15, 2024, brought together 1,400 competitors from 69 countries, showcasing excellence in vocational skills. Hansen's achievement marks the second consecutive WorldSkills competition where the U.S. has medaled in welding.

Hansen trained tirelessly, logging up to 95 hours per week leading up to the competition, to master four rigorous welding modules tested over three days. His hard work and mental preparation paid off, as he earned a spot on the podium among the world's best.

A recent graduate of Utah State University Eastern, Hansen plans to pursue a welding engineering degree at Weber State University while launching his own welding business.

In recognition of his accomplishments, the AWS Foundation and Miller Electric will provide Hansen with a \$40,000 scholarship, helping him reach new heights as a skilled professional and global ambassador for the welding industry.



The American Welding Society and AWS Foundation sent a delegation to Lyon to support Wyatt Hansen and promote careers in the welding industry. From left to right: Joe Young, Senior Manager, Workforce Development; Monica Pfarr, Executive Director, AWS Foundation; Michael Krupnicki, 2024 AWS President; and Matthew Rubin, Managing Director, Sales and Expositions.

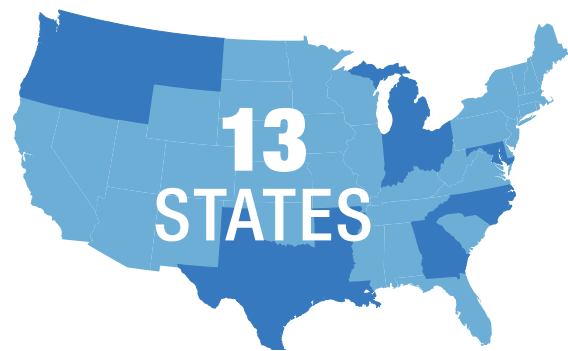
WorldSkills Global Industry Partners



Wyatt Hansen performs final welding on the most challenging module of the competition, the pressure vessel.

CAREERS IN WELDING TOUR

The AWS Careers in Welding Mobile Experience is a dynamic, interactive exhibit that serves as a powerful catalyst for workforce development in the welding industry. Traveling across the United States, this 53-foot expandable trailer inspires individuals to explore rewarding, family-sustaining careers in welding.



2024 TOUR STOPS

- Bulldog Build-Off & Pipe Challenge | Pollok, TX
- Texas HS Welding Series | Baytown, TX
- Strawberry Festival | Ponchatoula, LA
- Montana State Fair | Great Falls, MT
- Montana Fair | Billings, MT
- Western Idaho Fair | Garden City, ID
- Oregon State Fair | Salem, OR
- Evergreen State Fair | Monroe, WA
- Lincoln Electric Family Day | Cleveland, OH
- The Ohio State University Farm Science Review | London, OH
- Robeson Regional Agricultural Fair | Lumberton, NC
- Crystal Steel Fabricators, Inc. | Federalsburg, MD
- Lexicon, Inc | Little Rock, AR
- Sunbelt Ag Expo | Moultrie, GA
- National FFA Convention & Expo | Indianapolis, IN
- MiCareerQuest | Novi, MI

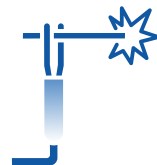
The Careers in Welding Exhibit is sponsored by Lincoln Electric Company.



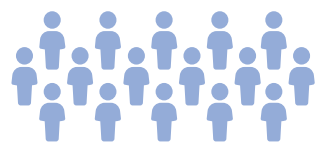
By offering cutting-edge virtual welding simulations through Lincoln Electric's state-of-the-art VRTEX® 360 Virtual Reality Welding Simulators, the exhibit provides participants with a hands-on introduction to the skills and technology shaping the future of the welding profession.



17
EVENTS



26,028
VIRTUAL WELDS



32,404
VISITORS

35 \$1,000 TOP SCORE SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

BLUEFORCE ALLIANCE PARTNERSHIP

In 2024, the AWS Foundation launched a partnership with BlueForge Alliance to promote BuildSubmarines.com, a website focused on bringing awareness to the U.S. Navy's new submarine production goals by promoting education, training, and career opportunities in shipbuilding.

The U.S. Navy estimates that more than 140,000 new skilled workers will be needed over the next decade to meet its goals while maintaining the current fleet.



"We are proud to announce a two-year sponsorship of the Careers in Welding Mobile Experience with BlueForge Alliance, and for our collective efforts to be part of the critical mission to build and sustain submarines. Their sponsorship will enable us to continue promoting welding as a rewarding career path and highlight the manufacturing workforce's essential role in our nation's defense."

MONICA PFARR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
AWS FOUNDATION



PARTNERSHIP

BUILDING CAREER PATHWAYS THROUGH AUTHENTIC STORIES

The Foundation's YouTube video series offers students a genuine look into welding careers through the eyes of professionals in the field. These accessible "day in the life" videos are designed for young people considering welding as a career path, sharing the personal journeys of welders across diverse industries and showcasing the opportunities available.

MEET OUR FEATURED WELDERS

CHRIS LOTVETD, BOILERMAKER, DRY FORK STATION POWER PLANT:

Step inside a 400-megawatt coal-fired power generation facility where Chris applies his 15 years of expertise to everything from turbine maintenance to specialized nine-chrome welds.

"Welding got me in the door, and then I had to branch out from there and learn everything else... it's definitely possible to make six figures."



Watch how welding opened doors for Chris to a versatile and rewarding career in the trades.



BRODY TERRELL, WELDING FABRICATOR, L&H INDUSTRIAL:

From weekend projects at his parents' farm to professional work with advanced dual-wire hyperfill techniques, follow Brody as he tackles challenging repairs on heavy industrial equipment.

"I would recommend going the route I did for anyone who is young and wants to get into welding."



Watch how Brody turned his passion into a thriving career and learn how welding can open doors for you, too.

EXPANDING ACROSS MARKET SEGMENTS

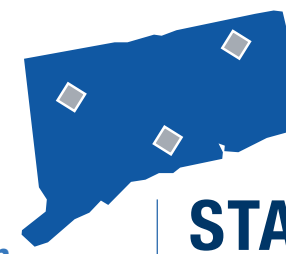
This growing YouTube library primarily serves students exploring welding career options, giving them authentic glimpses into real work environments across the industry. We're actively expanding to showcase additional specialties including underwater welding, aerospace applications, automotive fabrication, and welding education.

Visit our YouTube channel to watch these compelling stories and discover the diverse opportunities awaiting students in the welding profession.



CURRENTS OF CHANGE: GRANTS IN ACTION

From new welding machines to additional booths to virtual reality training systems, the AWS Foundation is providing schools the tools they need to train more welding professionals to enter the field.



STATE HIGHLIGHT: CONNECTICUT

Over the past two years, the AWS Foundation has awarded grants to three schools in Connecticut: Bristol Technical Education Center, Tourtellotte Memorial High School, and Westbrook High School.

Home to prominent companies such as Electric Boat, Sikorsky Aircraft, and Pratt & Whitney, Connecticut is at the forefront of the U.S.'s efforts to strengthen its defense industrial base. These prime manufacturers drive the demand for skilled welders and tradespeople to support the production of submarines, helicopters, and jet engines. The AWS Foundation is proud to support Connecticut schools in preparing the next generation of welding professionals who will be essential to meeting this critical workforce need.



Scan the QR code for an interactive map of our past grant recipients.

WELDING WORKFORCE GRANT

The following schools were awarded grants of up to \$25,000 in 2024:

- Bristol Technical Education Center | Bristol, CT
- Capital Area Career Center | Springfield, IL
- Carrollton Area Career Center | Carrollton, MO
- Central Arizona College | Coolidge, AZ
- El Capitan High School | Merced, CA
- Indiana County Technology Center | Indiana, PA
- Lawrence-Nelson Public Schools | Nelson, NE
- MAEF Charter ACCEL Academy | Mobile, AL (Mobile Section Grant)
- Maple Mountain High School | Spanish Fork, UT
- Milton High School | Milton, WI
- Rimrock Jr./Sr. High School | Bruneau, ID
- Santa Fe Independent School District | Santa Fe, TX
- The MiLL National Training Center | Colorado Springs, CO
- Tidioute Community Charter School | Tidioute, PA
- Tourtellotte Memorial High School | North Grosvenordale, CT

121 WELDING WORKFORCE GRANTS

AWARDED SINCE 2017

\$2.7 MILLION GRANT FUNDS

AWARDED SINCE 2017

AWS Vice President and Grants Committee Chair J Jones presents a banner to Bristol Technical Education Center.



SUPPORT FOR EDUCATORS



Behind every skilled welder is an educator who sparked their passion and provided the foundation for a successful career.

Recognizing the vital role of welding educators, the AWS Foundation is committed to supporting the professional development of welding educators through scholarships and training opportunities.

In 2024, the AWS Foundation, in partnership with Bechtel Group Foundation, offered a complimentary Certified Welding Educator Seminar at the Bechtel Welding and Applied Technology Center in Houston, Texas. Twenty-one welding instructors from across the country attended, completing an intense week of training followed by the Certified Welding Educator Exam.

The AWS Foundation is excited to partner with Bechtel Group Foundation again in 2025 to offer a complimentary CWE Seminar and Exam for up to 30 welding educators from July 27 to August 2 at the Lincoln Electric Welding Technology & Training Center in Euclid, Ohio.

SPECIAL THANKS TO



WELDING EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Over the past year, the AWS Foundation invested more than \$60,000 to support welding educators, providing them with the resources and training needed to enhance their teaching and inspire the next generation of skilled welders.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS SUPPORTED:

- Bachelor's degree in Career Technical Education
- Master of Science (MS) in Engineering Management
- Master of Education (MEd)
- Doctorate of Education (EdD)
- CWI/CWE Seminar and Exam
- Welder Performance Qualifier Endorsement
- Robotic Welding Training Course
- SME Section IX Workshop
- ASNT Phased Array Ultrasonic Testing

56 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

DRIVING INNOVATION

Five graduate students each received a \$35,000 fellowship to support research projects in welding, additive manufacturing, and other allied technologies.



AWS FELLOWSHIP

Ian Wietecha-Remain
The Pennsylvania State University
Investigating the Interaction Between Fatigue Response and Complex Inclusions in Additively Manufactured Austenitic Stainless Steels
Under the guidance of Dr. Todd Palmer



MILLER ELECTRIC MANUFACTURING COMPANY FELLOWSHIP

Satyaki Sinha
Iowa State University
Reducing Cracking and Porosity in Wobble Laser Powder Bed Fusion Using Modeling, Experiments, and Optimization Methods
Under the guidance of Dr. Tuhin Mukherjee



AWS FELLOWSHIP

Flint Colvin
The Ohio State University
Ultrasonic Assisted Soldering of Metallized-Polymer Current Collectors for Thermal Runaway Resistant Li-Ion Batteries
Under the guidance of Dr. Avi Benatar



GLENN J. GIBSON FELLOWSHIP

Aric Adamson
Colorado School of Mines
Multi-Principal Element Alloy Filler Development for Brazing at Approximately 1000 Degrees Celsius
Under the guidance of Dr. Zhenzhen Yu



AWS FELLOWSHIP

Avikiran Kopparthi
University of Alberta
Bond Formation Mechanism of High-Frequency Electric Resistance Welded X65 Pipeline Steel
Under the guidance of Dr. Leijun Li



Fellowship Alum Wins Prestigious International Award

Dr. Derek Shaffer was awarded the prestigious IIW Henry Granjon Award in Category B: Materials Behavior and Weldability in recognition of his outstanding research paper, "Rate of Composition in Aging Additively Manufactured Precipitation Hardening Stainless Steels."

Dr. Shaffer was an AWS Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Recipient at Penn State from 2019 to 2022, conducting research under the guidance of Dr. Todd Palmer. He currently works at Phoenix Laser Solutions focusing on process R&D and new customer development for laser welding, cladding, hardening, and engraving.

CHARTING NEW WATERS



CAREERSINWELDING.COM

CareersinWelding.com is now part of AWS.org. The site was recently rebuilt from the ground up with enhanced search, responsive design, and tailored member experiences. Career profiles feature the latest information on salaries, education requirements, and job demand.



WELDINGWORKFORCEDATA.COM

WeldingWorkforceData.com remains the premier source for the most up-to-date and accurate welding workforce projections, demographics, salary information, and industry data. Based on the most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Lightcast, the AWS Foundation projects a need for 320,500 welding professionals between 2025 and 2029.



WELD-ED RECEIVES ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The National Center for Welding Education and Training (Weld-Ed) received an additional \$2.4 million in funding from the National Science Foundation. This will continue Weld-Ed's efforts to improve welding technician education through teacher professional development and program improvements through 2027. AWS Foundation serves as the co-lead for Weld-Ed.



WOMEN IN WELDING

AWS Foundation Executive Director Monica Pfarr served as organizer and moderator for three well-attended Women in Welding Panel Discussions titled "Do I have to wear pink?" The discussions were held at Skills USA Nationals in June, AWS Welding Summit in August, and FABTECH in October. Panelists included Shanen Aranmor, founder, Weld Like A Girl; Lori Kuiper, director of specialty products, Red-D-Arc; Haley Satterwhite-Day, business development manager, PECl; Sarah Stork, artist; Alisyn Palla, owner, Meraki Metal Works; Olivia McCleery, e-learning content creator, Lincoln Electric.

AWS FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTORS

The AWS Foundation received **\$1,140,000 in donations in 2024, over \$200,000 more than in 2023.** The companies, members, individuals, and AWS Sections who donated over \$1,000 to support scholarships, grants, and other workforce development initiatives are listed below.



\$200,000+

Bechtel Group Foundation
Lincoln Electric Company

\$100,000+

Kotecki Family

\$75,000+

BlueForge Alliance

\$50,000+

Aim High Jerry Clay Scholarship,
LLC & Toni Clay

AWS Central Arkansas Section

\$25,000+

ARC Specialties
Jack R. Barckhoff
Profax/Lenco
STI/SPFA

\$10,000+

Harvey and Linda Castner
Timothy Donovan
Linde
Jack Parker
Robert Roth
John M. Stropki, Jr. Family
Marla Whitley

*AWS District 13
AWS Houston Section
AWS Mobile Section
AWS New Mexico Section
AWS North Florida Section
AWS San Francisco Section*

\$5,000+

Bryce Bartkowiak
Denis E. Clark
Michael O. Hamilton

*AWS Central Michigan Section
AWS Northwest Section*

\$1,000+

Central Maintenance and Welding, Inc.
Chevron Matching Gift Program
Leon and Nancy Cole
Jack and Jo Dammann
Jeffrey P. Deckrow
Von Gallagher
Adam Harris
Jim and Diane Key
Jenny McCall
Thomas M. Mustaleski
Robert Pali
John Perry
Monica Pfarr
Rick Richardson
Root Engineering Services
Richard & Carol Seif
Bill and Debbie Visintainer

AWS Columbus Section

SPECIAL THANKS

PLATINUM LEVEL SUPPORTERS

The AWS Foundation would like to give special thanks to its Platinum Level Supporters, who have donated more than \$1 million to support scholarships and other workforce development initiatives.

- American Welding Society
- Lincoln Electric Company and the Lincoln Electric Foundation
- Miller Electric Manufacturing Company

STAFF OF THE AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY

who contributed more than \$16,000 during the annual staff campaign.

Our work is never done.

Please consider joining us as we work to inspire a new generation of welding professionals. Donate today at aws.org/donate.

If you are interested in establishing a scholarship or grant endowment, contact Monica Pfarr, Executive Director of the AWS Foundation, at 786-937-9641 or mpfarr@aws.org.

All donations to scholarships and grants are matched 100% by the AWS Foundation.

REACHING HIGHER
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American Welding Society®
FOUNDATION

Founded in 1989, the AWS Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the American Welding Society, the nonprofit organization with a global mission to advance the science, technology, and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes.

The AWS Foundation works to ensure the growth and development of the welding industry through various initiatives, including career awareness, scholarship programs, and grants to institutions that offer welding education and training.

As a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, we rely on the generosity of our partners who understand the value of welding and its role in building a better, stronger economy.

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