GO DEEPER · RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS

The research, the landscape, and the sources

Three shelves: research for you, career landscape for your students, and the Georgia sources behind every number in this toolkit.

The research · Technician Economy™

For the professional-learning session, the board presentation, or the administrator who asks why this matters. The through-line: every plant runs on machinery, and more of it is automated each year. The availability of people who install, maintain, and repair equipment determines the success and growth of companies.

Closing America's Innovation-Deployment Gap	The core argument: new equipment and systems don't pay off until technicians install, maintain, and repair them
Structural Drivers of the Technician Deployment Gap	Five structural shifts behind the gap, including machinery that is more connected and more complex. Good framing for a curriculum or advisory-board conversation.
Beyond Job Growth: The Real Scale of America's Technician Workforce	Why openings far exceed net growth, due to replacement demand, retirements, and rising complexity. Built on BLS data.
The Top 10 Technician Roles Powering the Technician Economy	Ten recurring roles, including maintenance, automation, controls, instrumentation, and robotics, that show up across 50+ sectors.
Why Are Jobs Still Unfilled?	Employers and colleges are everywhere. The problem is coordination, not absence.
What Hidden Innovation Infrastructure Confirms	Technician education as regional economic infrastructure, drawing on Rutgers research funded by NSF
NSF's ATE Centers Are a National Asset	The national network of college technician-education centers, with a link to the ATE impact report
Skilled Trades Technicians Make Robots Useful	The answer to "won't automation take these jobs?" Examples are from construction, but the logic holds on any plant floor.

The career landscape · Technicians of America™

For students. Show them the range, not just four roles.

National Technician Role Library	245+ technician roles, each with duties, wage range, skills, and training pathway
Technician Careers by Industry	Twelve industries, with roles, pay, and where the work is
National Reference Guide for Technician Careers	The plain-language answers: what a technician is, training, credentials, pay
Mechatronics vs. Maintenance vs. Robotics Technician	Three roles that work on the same automated equipment from different angles. Pairs with the alignment sheets.
How to Become a Technician	Step-by-step paths from high school, apprenticeship, or college
Types of Technicians and Specializations	A good opener for students who've never heard the word used this way

Note for students: national wage ranges differ from Georgia figures. When you're advising a Georgia student, lead with the Georgia numbers in this toolkit.

The Georgia sources · what's behind every figure here

BLS wages, Georgia	Any Georgia wage by occupation (Atlanta metro: bls.gov/oes/current/oes_12060.htm)
Projections Central	Georgia job growth and annual openings through 2034
TCSG, Free Tuition	The 18 HOPE Career Grant programs and what students still pay
GAfutures, HOPE Career Grant	Current eligibility, for families
Georgia Work-Based Learning	Student eligibility, program types, and regional WBL contacts
O*NET OnLine	Tasks, skills, and knowledge for any occupation code on the alignment sheets
NSF ATE Impact Report 2026 to 2027	National evidence on college technician education
Manufacturing Georgia marketplace	Current Georgia openings by role, and online courses