



MiCareerQuest™ NORTHEAST

is a hands-on career readiness event for middle and high school students from across the 11 county region of northeast lower Michigan created to inspire and direct young people to viable careers in high-demand occupations and to address the need for future talent.

FACT: 37.5 million Boomers will retire in the next decade. **21** million emerging workers will enter the workforce to replace them.

FACT: Over the next decade nearly **3.5 MILLION** manufacturing jobs will be created. **2 MILLION** of these jobs will likely go unfilled.

What are we, as a region, doing to encourage our youth to choose careers in Northeast Michigan's high-demand industries?



"REMARKABLE program. This was engaging, exciting, and allowed so many students to explore things not explored before. THANK YOU!"

"It was an amazing opportunity for students to discover fields they have never heard of, and being able to associate that work with a local company makes it much more "real" to them. We really appreciated the opportunity to speak with people who are actually doing the jobs every day, to find out what they like about their work and what training they needed to get there."

- Participating Educators

MANUFACTURING CONSTRUCTION HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY

MiCareerQuest™ 2025 will expose students to interactive exhibits and exciting careers!

Students will:

- Explore careers in Advanced Manufacturing, Construction, Healthcare, and Technology
- Talk one-on-one with experts from the region's high-demand occupations
- Touch, feel and work with the tools - and technology - of the trades

Don't miss this chance to help prepare students for careers in Northern Michigan!

MiCareerQuest Northeast MI will be held at The Ellison Place in Gaylord

HISTORY

MiCareerQuest™ was created in 2015 by West Michigan Works!, Kent ISD, and the Construction Workforce Development Alliance (CWDA) in response to employers' need for future talent in Construction, Healthcare, Information Technology, and Manufacturing.

THE EVENT

Students rotate through quadrants highlighting four industries: Advanced Manufacturing, Construction, Healthcare, and Technology. Students participate hands-on at interactive exhibits showcasing various occupations and tools-of-the-trade. Students engage in conversations with professionals who do these jobs every day, opening students' eyes to opportunities for great careers in Northeast Michigan.

THE EXHIBITS

Employer Champions for each industry work with regional employers to develop hands-on interactive exhibits highlighting the industry and utilizing the tools-of-the-trade. Exhibits will be fun and engaging for grades 8-12, illustrating some aspect of the career they are highlighting. Unlike career expos and job fairs, this event isn't about handing out corporate marketing materials or to advertise job openings, but to introduce the workforce of tomorrow to opportunities they may never have known existed and get them excited about the industries.

CORE PHILOSOPHY

MiCareerQuest is an **employer-driven** event. Employer champions, assisted by Michigan Works! Northeast Consortium staff, drive employer participation and the creation of student activities. MiCareerQuest engages students through **one-on-one conversations** with professionals and **hands-on activities** that allow students to experience and hopefully, spark an interest in, the various careers. Regional ISDs drive student participation.

“The exhibits were like real life job experiences. I thought we were just going to listen to a bunch of speakers but I like how you changed it up.”

“I loved the atmosphere of it! It was nice having the employers prepared for any questions I had.”

“...I think I finally figured out what I want to do for my career, and before this trip I had no idea what I wanted to do.”

- Participating Students

MAY 15, 2025 EVENT DETAILS

LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION

The 2025 Northeast Michigan MiCareerQuest will take place at The Ellison Place in Gaylord, MI.

Busing concerns? If funding is a barrier to participation, transportation reimbursement towards gas/drivers/charter buses may be available.

SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION

NEW THIS YEAR: There will be 2 student sessions available: 9:15am - 11:13am and 11:45am - 1:43pm. Schools will have input as to which session they'd prefer. Students will have 28 minutes in each industry quadrant before moving to the next. Due to the short nature of the event, no food will be provided for students. *Online registration opens late 2024.*