

Brad Bartlett

Age: 24

Job Title: Toolmaker

Company Name: Tri-V Tool & Mfg.

College: Southeast Community College

Degree or Certification: Tool & Die Maker

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What does your company do?

We fabricate and manufacture piece parts for various applications and companies.

What attracted you to the company? The wide variety of work and the knowledgeable employees.

What is the most rewarding thing about your job? Machine building. You can learn and do something different almost every day. After several design meetings, making the piece parts, assembling and debugging, it is very rewarding to see a machine come together into a complete working machine.

How did you decide on this career path? I worked at Tri-V through the School to Career program at Papillion-LaVista High School. During my senior year, I worked in the morning and went to classes in the afternoon. With this experience, I decided to choose manufacturing as a career.

What kind of school, classes, and training most prepared you with the necessary skills? At SCC, we had numerous math and hands-on shop classes that prepared me for my job at Tri-V.

What kind of salary and benefits can a new employee at your company expect? You can expect benefits that include health/dental insurance, 401k plan, paid holidays and vacations, and tuition reimbursement. Starting out, you can easily make \$40,000 during your first year if you work the overtime

Do you make a good living?

When I was 20 years old and had been working at Tri-V for only 6 months, I was able to purchase my first house. In January, at the age of 24, I built a brand new house in Papillion. With that example, you can see there are numerous opportunities in the manufacturing industry that you can take advantage of to make a good living. There are many other people in the manufacturing industry that have accomplished the same things I have.

What advice would you give to students who are undecided on a career choice? If you are looking at a career in manufacturing and are not going to attend a four-year university, I would strongly recommend a technical trade school like SCC. They have many different manufacturing programs available to choose from.