

## Fueling Iowa's Workforce: The Power of 260E and Local Innovation

Since 1983, the Iowa Industrial New Jobs Training Program—commonly known as 260E—has been a cornerstone of economic development. Administered by Iowa's community colleges, the program helps businesses grow by investing in their most valuable asset—people. At the heart of this mission, DMACC Business Resources (DBR) continues to champion workforce development across Central Iowa, helping both urban and rural businesses thrive.

A standout example is Van Maanen Technologies, a specialized trade business based in Newton, Iowa. In a region where skilled labor is scarce, Van Maanen embraces a "train your own" approach. Utilizing 260E funds, they identify promising individuals and equip them with the skills needed to succeed. The result? A stronger workforce and sustainable growth.

The impact goes beyond productivity. Employees feel the difference. One employee, after beginning Van Maanen's training program, left for an out-of-state job—only to return a year later, drawn back by the company's commitment to development and culture of growth.

Van Maanen's investment in people pays off. As employees earn specialized certifications, they're rewarded with meaningful wage increases. It's a win-win: a more capable workforce and a company that continues to grow from within.

Thanks to its partnership with DBR and the 260E program, Van Maanen Technologies is not just building careers—it's building community.

### What companies say about DMACC's role in the 260E Program

"DMACC has helped us navigate the complexities of the program with clarity and consistency. **Their team is accessible, knowledgeable, and always willing to work through challenges with us.** They regularly bring forward thoughtful ideas to improve training, support employee development, and help us plan for future headcount needs."

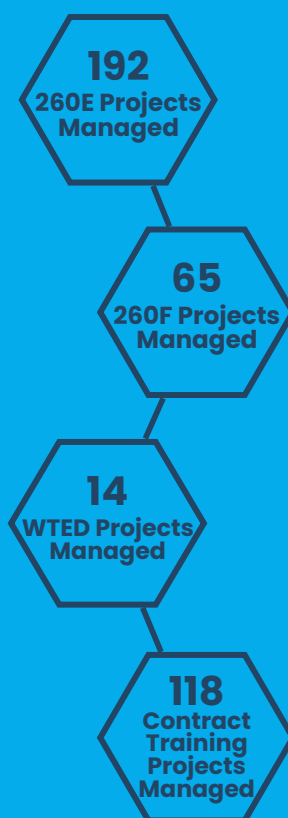
– Access Systems, Inc.

"[With the 260E program]...**we have been able to provide training to our employees where without the funding, we wouldn't have been able to provide.** DMACC has been a huge asset in walking us through the process. They have been very attentive to our needs and have always been willing to help."

– Team Kline

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## By the Numbers



### FY 2025 DMACC Trained Individuals

**260E**  
438\*

**260F**  
698\*

**WTED**  
1,155\*

**Contract**  
991\*

\*Could include duplicates as participants are able to be trained in multiple training sessions.

# Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses

Since coming to Iowa in 2019 Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses has become a thriving program that continues to support Iowa's small businesses.

**364**  
Alumni

**59%**  
Women-Owned  
Businesses

**95%**  
Graduation  
Rate

**101**  
Iowa Towns

**66**  
Counties

## What companies say about DMACC's role in the 260E Program

"We should have done this earlier, but it has been a great boost to our ability to grow. **As a small business being able to take those credits and reapply to additional growth within Iowa has been a tremendous boost.**

DMACC has been very helpful, supportive, and patient with us from the beginning through today."

- Launch IT Corp.

"The 260E program helped our small manufacturing facility grow our operational, Quality Assurance, and safety training. **We were able to invest in our people with these funds and help them grow in their food manufacturing knowledge.** From Leadership & Food Safety to OSHA, CPR & First Aid, we were able to get all of these trainings with this project. DMACC was great at helping us facilitate the trainings through their many connections."

- Fairy Tale Cotton Candy

## Deepening DMACC's Commitment to Entrepreneurs and the Local Economy

Starting in Fiscal Year 2024, DMACC expanded their commitment to Central Iowa's economic vitality by stepping forward as the Des Moines host for the John Papajohn Entrepreneurial Center's (JPEC) Venture School. Welcoming both aspiring entrepreneurs and established business owners, Venture School empowers them to transform promising ideas into viable, market-ready ventures.

Offered at six locations across Iowa, Venture School delivers a high-energy, immersive experience centered around experimentation, Lean LaunchPad methodologies, and real-world customer discovery. Over six weeks, participants push the boundaries of innovation and refine their business concepts through hands-on learning. The program culminates in an exciting pitch-off event, where participants compete for up to \$5,000 in prize money—fueling the launch or growth of their businesses.

Since the program's arrival at DMACC, 25 entrepreneurs have seized this opportunity, with several going on to claim top honors at EntreFest's statewide pitch competition. DMACC's partnership with JPEC not only connects Venture School participants to the robust college network but also opens doors to invaluable relationships with regional businesses. Together, DMACC and JPEC are fostering the next generation of Iowa innovators and shaping a more vibrant economic future.

Scan here for  
more information

