



**Inclusive Manufacturing  
Project W24-02  
Inclusive Manufacturing Grant Application**

**Overview:** The Inclusive Manufacturing Grant (IMG) aims to provide financial assistance to 40 small and mid-size manufacturers seeking to enhance accessibility for employees with disabilities through implementation of assistive technology. This grant supports companies in their efforts to create inclusive and equitable work environments by providing funds to assist in making factory floors and manufacturing processes more accessible.

**Grant Focus:**

IMG provides funding to:

- Install and implement assistive technology that promotes accessibility and usability for employees with disabilities.
- Modify existing manufacturing equipment to accommodate workers with varying abilities.
- Develop or enhance accessible training programs that incorporate assistive technologies.
- Ensure safety and ergonomic compliance for employees with disabilities through upgraded equipment and technologies.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

To qualify for IMG, manufacturers must:

1. Be a registered manufacturing company operating within USA.
2. Demonstrate a commitment to improving workplace accessibility for employees or future employees with disabilities.
3. Be willing to report on the project outcomes with MxD and share best practices with the broader industry.

**Grant Amount:**

- Applicants may request funding up to \$1,000 based on the scope and scale of the project.
- Funding can be used to cover equipment costs, installation, training, and other relevant expenses.

## **Key Areas of Focus:**

1. **Assistive Technology:** Introduction or upgrading of assistive tools, such as:
  - Adaptive machinery controls (e.g., voice-activated systems, hands-free controls)
  - Ergonomic tools and workstations adjustable for various physical needs.
  - Collaborative robots that assist employees in performing physical tasks.
  - Specialized software or hardware to assist employees with vision or hearing impairments.
  
2. **Accessible Safety Systems:** Enhancing safety equipment for employees with disabilities, such as:
  - Tactile warning systems for visually impaired workers.
  - Visual alert systems for hearing-impaired workers.
  
3. **Employee Training for Employees with Disabilities:** Development of inclusive training programs that incorporate:
  - Screen readers, captioned tutorials, or sign language interpretation.
  - Accessible onboarding materials such as braille manuals, large print, or video guides.
  
4. **Facility Modifications:** Implementing infrastructure modifications to support accessibility, including:
  - Installing ramps, lifts, or automatic doors.
  - Modifying machinery layouts to ensure access for individuals using mobility devices.

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

IMG applications will be reviewed based on the following factors:

- Feasibility of the proposed intended use of funds alignment with the goals of the IMG
- Potential for the use of funds to create a more accessible and inclusive work environment
- Innovation in the use of assistive technology
- The number of employees with disabilities positively impacted by the use of funds
- Long-term sustainability and potential for the use of funds to serve as a model for other manufacturers.

**SUBMISSION PROCESS:**

Submit completed applications via email to [mxdlearn@mxdusa.org](mailto:mxdlearn@mxdusa.org) no later than January 31, 2025. Priority will be given to applications that are fully completed and submitted by the deadline.

**APPLICATION:**

*I. Company Information*

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

*II. Intended Use of Funds*

Provide an overview of the intended use of funds, including how it will improve accessibility and promote the inclusion of employees with disabilities. Detail the specific technologies and modifications you plan to implement, provide a proposed timeline for project implementation, and describe the anticipated impact on employees with disabilities and the broader workforce.

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*III. Budget*

Provide a detailed budget breakdown, including costs for equipment, installation, shipping, training, and other relevant expenses (e.g., Total Requested Grant Amount listed above: \$800; Budget Item: Pneumatic Adjustable Workbench \$500, Shipping \$300).

Budget Item:	Dollar Amount:
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____

Total Requested Grant Amount (\$1,000 max): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*IV. Supporting Documents*

- Current accessibility policies or procedures (if applicable)
- Manufacturer's commitment to maintenance and longevity of implemented technologies

V. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Join MxD in creating an inclusive manufacturing industry that supports the contributions and talents of all employees. Apply today to bring accessibility to your factory floor! If you have any questions, contact us at [mxdlearn@mxdusa.org](mailto:mxdlearn@mxdusa.org).**