



Department of the Navy M³ Fact Sheet

In December of 2021, the Biden-Harris Administration enacted a series of Presidential directives highlighting the critical importance of our Submarine Industrial Base, emphasizing its enduring robustness, resilience and competitive edge in the United States and undersea warfighting mission. As a nation, we continue to underscore the importance of our domestic maritime capability and capacity, and in parallel have ushered in a landmark partnership with our allies in Australia and the United Kingdom. Our national security relies on a guaranteed response, and the industrial base and workforce responsible for delivering the platforms and systems that assure that response.

In 2023, Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro announced a new Maritime statecraft that would be foundational to achieving President Biden's and Secretary Del Toro's shared goals. Maritime statecraft leverages a reinvigorated strategic plan to conduct national, whole-of-government efforts to transform U.S. and allied naval and commercial maritime power. It demands equally strong engagement in areas of economic development, trade, education, and science to enable us to compete more successfully on a global scale.

The M³ Initiative

The Biden Administration is proud to announce the formal launch of the *Michigan Maritime Manufacturing (M3) Initiative*. This partnership will span across Navy, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), state/local/federal governments, and a network of hundreds of defense industry, labor, and academic organizations across Michigan. Through the *M3 initiative*, we will implement pipelines and programs targeted at meeting the Navy's demand signal for thousands of new workers and jobs across the state and the broader Great Lakes region. We will connect more people to the maritime mission through dedicated maritime attraction, recruitment, training, and placement, while also ensuring those who are already part of that mission understand their contribution.

Why Michigan?

While Navy supply chains are critical across America, there is no better place to focus near-term partnerships and priorities than in the great state of Michigan—a manufacturing powerhouse who has led our nation's manufacturing for decades.

- The state that put the world on wheels and assembled the arsenal of democracy remains #1 for automotive manufacturing, with more than 38,000 new auto jobs secured since 2019.
- The state's manufacturing industry continues to diversify, using its strong base of skilled talent and organized labor to become a top producer of semiconductor chips, electric vehicle batteries and clean energy.
- Thanks to strategic partnerships forged between state government, top employers, higher education, and workforce programs, Michigan has become a hotspot for federal investments from the Biden-Harris administration's trio of industrial legislation—the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIPS and Science Act.

The Department of Defense – Key Contributions

Recognizing this strategic opportunity to leverage Michigan's vast industrial potential to meet critical defense maritime needs, the Department of Defense (DOD) is swiftly integrating key components of its industrial workforce development programs, projects, and investments into the M3 initiative.

- This partnership will make a \$2 million investment to build pathways for students that provide a stream of interactions with STEM and manufacturing education to generate interest in technical skills and increase awareness of maritime manufacturing careers with Michigan K-12 students.
- \$4.5 million for Project MFG activities, to include expanding into Michigan. Project MFG, an existing effort within the DOD's IBAS Program, is a flagship advanced manufacturing skills competition series serving industrial awareness, recruiting, and training development functions. This program will elevate the next generation of highly skilled trade professionals through its national machining and welding championships and new Maritime Series competitions beginning in Michigan this Fall.
- DOD is making an investment of up to \$10.75 million over the next five years in ACENet, a growing national hub-and-spoke network of advanced machining training centers using computer aided design/computer aided manufacturing platforms.
- The Department anticipates participation through DOD's SkillBridge program which connects transitioning service members with industry partners in real-world job experiences in the last 180 days of service.
- The Navy will invest \$16 million to implement an accelerated welding and computer numerical controlled (CNC) machining training program this fall, introducing a maritime-focused skilled trades pipeline aimed at meeting the demand signal for hundreds of Michigan suppliers. This tailored and accelerated training approach will focus on certifications and qualifications needed by the surrounding defense industrial base, leveraging existing facilities to provide an "always on" talent pipeline.
- The Office of Naval Research recently funded a \$14.5 million Center for Naval Research & Education at the University of Michigan to advance shipbuilding research and design.
- \$3 million for an attraction and recruitment campaign focusing on Michigan's rich history in the manufacturing trades. This targeted recruitment initiative includes a new, Michigan-specific commercial that builds on the successful "We Build Giants" campaign, which has drawn more than 8 million people to Buildsubmarines.com since September 2023.

A Whole of Government Approach

- The Navy and **the Department of Education** have engaged with Michigan's Community College network to play a critical role in providing highly advanced technical training to address the Navy's needs. Macomb Community College along with Bay College and Grand Rapids Community College have already been identified to offer the Navy advanced welding and machining training with other Michigan community colleges expected to support soon.
- The Navy's Submarine Industrial Base program is investing \$750,000 in partnership with **the Department of Labor** and veteran placement agencies to place an estimated 1,000 veterans in SIB careers this year.
- The **Department of Labor** invests nearly \$114 million to the State of Michigan to fund the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. Veterans receive priority of service for the programs funded by Department of Labor and administered by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. Additionally, the **Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service** grants \$5.3 million to fund staff to provide individualized career services to those veterans most in need and to work with employers in hiring veterans.

- Finally, in concert with the **Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity; Macomb County Planning and Economic Development; and Michigan Works! Workforce Board;** and accelerators like the Accelerated Training in Defense Manufacturing (ATDM) program and LIFT's Learning Lab, the *M³ Initiative* will implement tailored and accelerated training curricula with a compressed time-to-talent continuous stream pipeline.

In today's geopolitical climate, we are constantly reminded of the importance of a ready and able military. That readiness will rely on strong partnerships and a national approach to prioritize the people and programs supporting national security infrastructure. Accordingly, *M3 Initiative* proudly leverages Michigan's century old legacy as America's engine to drive our national and global security safe and steady forward.