

LMC recognized for training in advanced manufacturing

By HP STAFF

BENTON HARBOR — Lake Michigan College has earned recognition for its participation in Tooling U, a machine tool technology online training program.

Tooling U has recognized LMC as a Platinum Education Center, an honor reserved for educational programs that embrace technology and are active in developing manufacturers. The Tooling U program trains specifically to the daily job functions of skilled workers through multimedia, key manufacturing content and assessment exams for students.

The program demonstrates the “flipped classroom approach,” where students view the lectures and take quizzes and tests online, according to Ken Flowers, LMC director of work force development.

“This approach benefits both students and employers,” Flowers said. “The students have more time for the hands-on lab work as they further their skills.”

LMC’s partnership with Tooling U allows students to supplement their education with advanced online training tools. Tooling U’s pre- and post-exams

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help identify learning disparities to teachers through online reports. The more than 400 online classes in subjects like abrasives, metal cutting, welding and others allow students to learn at their own pace while giving instructors extra time to teach in the classroom.

LMC also is helping area high schools integrate Tooling U into their programs. At Brandywine High School, students can take courses through the college's Manufacturing Academy.

Other programs honored this year by Tooling U are Southern Maine Community College in Portland, Maine, and Ozark Technical College in Springfield, Mo.