



Monroe County Community College NSF ATE Advanced Welder Education Program (DUE #1801078) hosted two training workshops on the implementation of the AWS SENSE certification program at the basic level, which is an industry recognized credential, in area high schools for existing welding programs. High school instructors were trained and educated through the SENSE program curriculum using more recent American Welding Society (AWS), QC 10 and 11, standards.

A total of 16 participants have been trained to date. As a result of the training each teacher had an opportunity to earn SENSE Entry-Level QC 10 certification. In turn, each high school instructor was then able to take this information back to their home school and implement SENSE certifications for their students at the high school. The workshop also provided the secondary teachers attain 40 hours of continuing education credits (CEUs) towards their teaching licensure in Michigan. Post workshop surveys for feedback purposes were also collected.

Our deliverable was developing new methodologies to the existing curriculum to address updates to welding standards and to help establish a pathway from weld and non-destructive testing course work that already exists at the college. Additionally, we created and launched articulation pathways with local and regional high schools to help transition students from secondary to post-secondary.

Further by incorporating latest additions to the AWS SENSE Advanced Level QC 11 standards in the classroom, the college is able to produce high caliber welders that are able to support research and development in the field and/or pursue next higher level of education in form of completion of an AAS followed by a BS degree with universities that have an established pathway of articulation with our college.

Our goal is to also open up additional pathways to four-year schools by establishing new pathways. Additional opportunity exists to add to the pool of qualified inspectors in the Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) field where the need for qualified personnel is acute nationwide.