# **HAAPE-UAA Academies for CNC Operators**

CNC stands for Computer Numerical Control, which refers to the automation of machine tools using computers executing pre-programmed sequences of commands. It's commonly used in manufacturing processes to control machining tools such as lathes, mills, routers, and grinders. CNC machining offers a combination of structured tasks, attention to detail, minimal social interaction, and reliance on clear communication that can make it well-suited for many autistic individuals.

**Dr. Ivan Rosenberg, HAAPE Board Member, through his Uniquely Abled Project (UAP) noted the ideal combination of abilities and employer needs and created a one semester program that has been proliferated via the Uniquely Abled Academy (UAA) to over 20 colleges across the United States. The results have been remarkable. There have been over 250 UAA graduates, nearly 100% received a job offer, 95% accepted and over 90% are working after a year.**

The Uniquely Abled Academy is a first of its kind program born out of collaboration between machine technology educators, specialists in education for those with autism, state and local social service agencies, and nonprofit and for-profit organizations. Together, these organizations (and more) continue to partner together to train, support, and provide job placement services to create inclusive career opportunities for individuals on the spectrum.

In partnership with UAP, HAAPE has committed to funding the licensing for 4 UAA’s at Broward College in Fort Lauderdale Florida, Palm Beach State College in Palm Beach, Florida, AMSkills in Tampa Florida and The Philadelphia Community College/A.J. Drexel Institute in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The UAP and HAAPE are dedicated to giving everyone the opportunity for workplace success and recognize the unique abilities and talents of our students.