

COVID-19 FAQs for Applicants

Safety is very important to all of us! If you have any specific concerns, please feel free to reach out and as. We will update this document regularly as new information emerges.

Q: Are companies still hiring apprentices given the current situation?

A: Yes, though there might be fewer open positions. It's too early to know the specific outcomes, but many of our ICATT Network Companies are providing critical components from medical devices to food and beverage, pharmaceuticals and more. Manufacturing is the foundation of so many products we use every day, especially during a crisis, and we are very proud of how our companies are helping. They understand the need to build their future workforce now and value the apprenticeship experience for their employees.

Q: What about social distancing during the hiring process?

A: We are working with our network partners on ways to maintain the process while implementing social distancing practices. ICATT is holding virtual outreach sessions with high schools and colleges to reach potential candidates. Our process with applicants will not change in that we talk with applicants mostly on the phone or by email. Face-to-face contact is with the college and the companies.

Our colleges:

- Adjusting their process for placement tests
- Advising by phone or by other virtual means

Our companies:

- Performing more phone and video interviews (see the [ICATT Applicant Handbook](#) for virtual interviewing tips)
- Not allowing non-employees onto their sites unless necessary, which means you may not be allowed on site until they make the decision to hire you
- Doing more outreach by virtual means to meet candidates and make their opportunities known

Q: How will a long-term shelter in place affect work and school for the apprenticeship?

A: Again, the safety of all is prioritized. Companies have put in place best practices for workforce safety, e.g. disinfecting procedures and social distancing at work by staggering work schedules when possible. Colleges are doing many classes online and virtually. They are making adjustments for lab courses and will advise how the schedule may be affected if it is necessary to postpone those courses until face-to-face courses can be resumed.