



Overview: Becoming an Endorsed Education or Training Program

Endorsement by the ARM Institute recognizes programs that align with industry needs, deliver high-quality instruction, and create a measurable impact for learners and employers in robotics and advanced manufacturing. This overview summarizes core areas evaluated during the endorsement process—helping organizations assess fit and understand the effort required, without detailing the full standards or metrics.

1. Industry Relevance

Endorsed programs clearly align with careers in the robotics and automation industry—such as Technician, Integrator, Operator, Engineer, or Educator—and apply industry competencies. Programs should:

- Show how training outcomes map to roles in the ARM Institute’s Career Pathways
- Be developed with industry input and reflect current technologies and workforce needs
- Engage industry advisors or partners to ensure real-world relevance
- Support workforce entry, development, or upskilling for ARM members or related stakeholders

2. Effective Curriculum

Programs must demonstrate high-quality instruction that meets industry demands. This includes:

- Alignment with the ARM Institute’s Competency Framework
- Industry expert involvement in curriculum design and review
- Robust assessment of knowledge and skills
- Real-world learning experiences (e.g. labs, co-ops, internships, projects, guest speakers)

Where applicable

- Clear processes to ensure instructors are qualified and receive ongoing professional development
- Hands-on training with current industry tools and equipment
- Use of a learning management system that supports instruction and track progress

3. Training Efficiency

Programs should offer strong value in terms of time, cost, and outcomes. This means:

- A return on investment (ROI) to prospective learners
- Demonstrate how the training supports job placement, advancement, or further education
- Ensuring accessibility and structure that promotes learner success

4. Program Sustainability

Programs must be backed by stable institutions and continuous improvement processes that ensure viability and long-term relevance. Organizations must show:

- Financial and administrative support for ongoing delivery
- Routine evaluation of curriculum and instruction for improvement
- Responsiveness to evolving workforce needs and standards

5. Transportability of Learning

Programs should result in credentials or certifications recognized by employers:

- Serve as a foundation for continued education or career advancement
- Help learners understand the value of their credential in the job market

6. Program Impact

Programs should track participation and use data for improvement:

- Collect and analyze data on enrollment, outcomes, and stakeholder satisfaction
- Use findings to refine programs and demonstrate relevance

Effort Required to Apply

The endorsement process requires thoughtful input across curriculum design, industry engagement, instructional quality, and institutional operations. Applicants will need to provide:

- Narrative descriptions of program components, strategies and outcomes.
- Supporting documentation (e.g., advisory board rosters, assessment tools, policies).
- Evidence of alignment with endorsement criteria and a commitment to continuous improvement

Organizations with existing partnerships, curriculum review practices, and learner data systems are often well-positioned to apply. However, time and effort to gather and present this information will vary by institution.