



# SPONSORSHIP & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

*Inspiring the Next Generation of Skilled Trades*



# THE SKILLS GAP



**10,000**

Baby boomers are retiring from the U.S. workforce every single day — pulling experienced technical workers out of the field



**72%**

Students perceive a stigma associated with entering the skilled trades



**44,000**

Roughly 44,000 plumber/pipefitter openings per year, combining growth plus retirements

The Gap

# Overlooked Careers, Overwhelming Demand

**74%** of high school students perceive a stigma associated with choosing vocational school over a traditional four-year university. An overwhelming **79%** of respondents said their parents wanted them to pursue a college education.

Between now and 2030, the global renewables industry will need an additional **1.1 million** blue-collar workers to develop and construct wind and solar plants and another **1.7 million** workers to operate and maintain them.

According to the US Department of Labor, the shipbuilding industry may require about **200,000 to 250,000** additional maritime workers in critical occupations, such as welding, soldering, and front-line management, to satisfy demand over the next decade.

## Annual US Job Openings

Electricians

**81,000 Openings**

HVAC Technicians

**40,000 Openings**

Construction & Extraction

**649,300 Openings**

Sheet Metal

**10,600 Openings**

Plumbers

**44,000 Openings**

# FROM BUILDING A BUSINESS TO BUILDING *FUTURES*

A great job provides dignity, stability, and a future. The skilled trades offer **ALL** of that — yet too many students never see the path.

Chris Ware knows this firsthand. As founder of The Ware Group, he operated 42 Johnstone Supply locations across the Southeast, working closely with skilled trades professionals in HVAC and related industries. Along the way, he witnessed a widening gap between the demand for skilled tradespeople and the talent available to fill it.

After selling the company, Chris asked a simple question around his family table: How can we invest in a way that truly changes lives? The answer was the skilled trades — where meaningful careers, economic mobility, and community impact intersect.

That question became WareWorks — building pathways that connect students to opportunity through community partnerships.

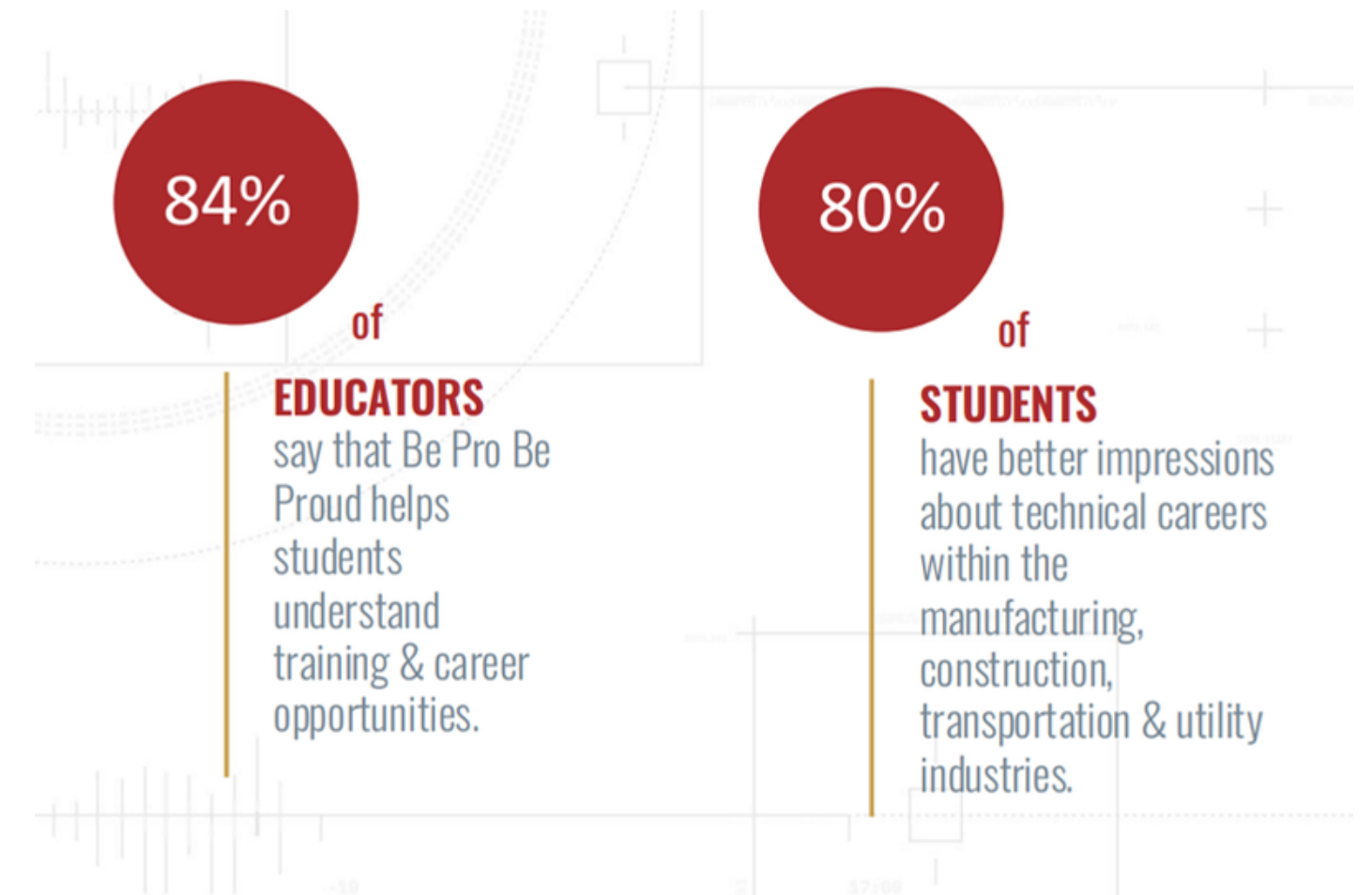


*Building Awareness*

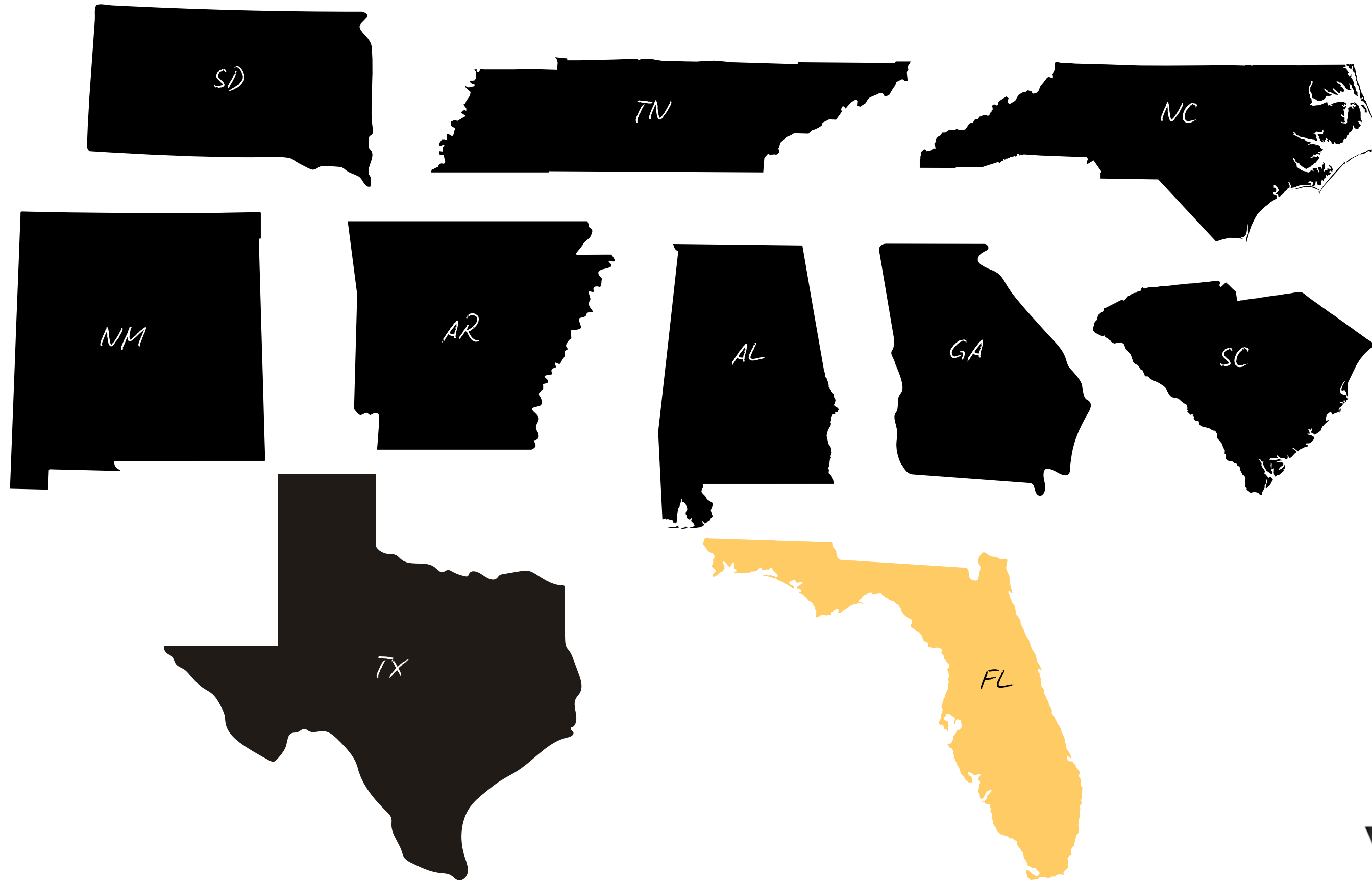
# Florida Mobile Learning Lab

Be Pro Be Proud is a workforce development initiative designed to change perceptions about the pursuit of technical careers as options of first choice, not last resort.

Using custom-built simulators and virtual reality technology, the mobile learning lab links hands-on experiences to real-life careers. Onboard the mobile learning lab are 12-16 stations that represent technical professions in Aerospace, Maritime, Construction, Manufacturing, Transportation, and Utilities.



# A National Movement



# Mobile Learning Lab National Impact

600K

Mobile Workshop Participants  
(2016–2025)

2,638

Mobile Workshop Tour Stops  
(2016–2025)

120K

Mobile Workshop Participants  
(Calendar Year 2025)

10

Partner States



Explore  
Learn  
Inspire

Right now, hundreds of thousands of jobs in the construction, manufacturing, transportation, and utility industries are unfilled across the U.S. and companies are struggling to find skilled workers to meet the growing demand.

The manufacturing industry alone could face a *deficit* of an estimated 2.1 million unfilled jobs by 2030 due to the skills gap and a retiring workforce. Students have the chance to step into high-demand, high-wage technical professions that offer limitless opportunities for growth and success.

# Unlimited Opportunity

## Statewide Reach

Serving communities across Florida.

## Removing Barriers

We bring hands-on learning directly to students.

## Built for Growth

Additional labs can be added as demand increases.

## Lasting Impact

Creating a stronger skilled trades workforce for Florida.

## Flexible Programming

Experiences adapt to regional workforce needs.

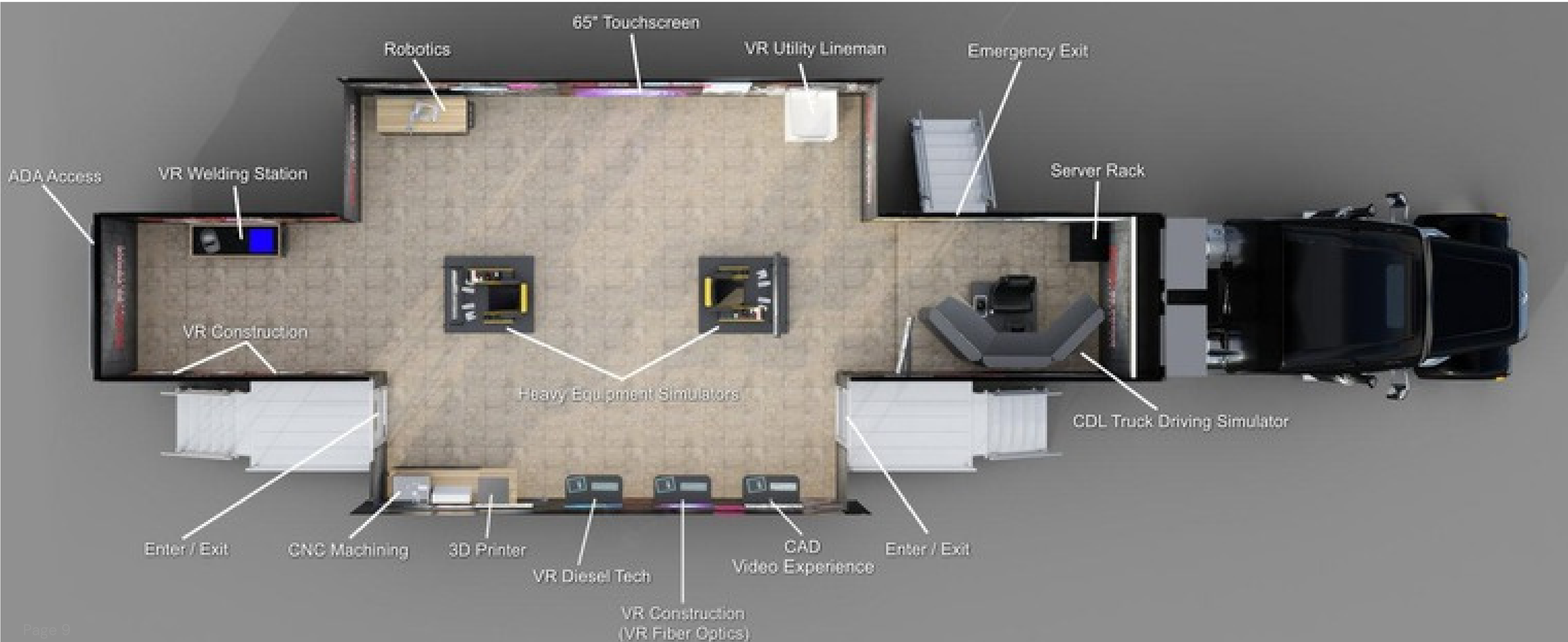
## 170 Days on the Road

Projected to reach thousands of students in the first 12 months



# Simulator Opportunities

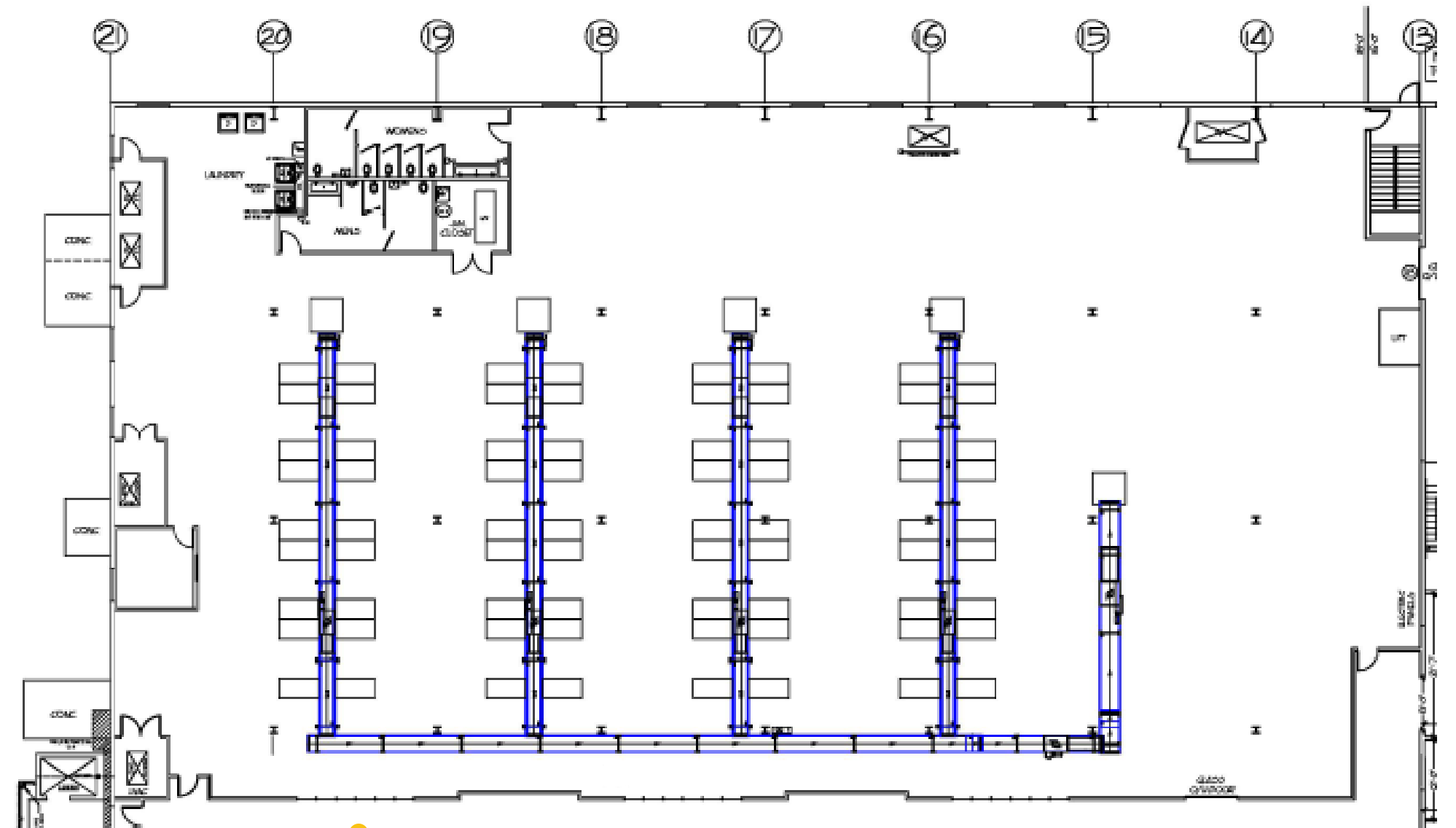
- Maritime
- Aerospace
- Rail
- Heavy Equipment
- Electrical
- HVAC
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Healthcare
- Fiber Optics
- Carpentry
- 3D Printing
- CDL Truck Driving
- Diesel Technician
- Computer-Aided Design
- Automation
- Welding
- Utility Lineman
- Plumbing
- CNC Machining
- Water Utilities
- Agriculture
- Aviation Maintenance
- Excavator
- Forklift Operations
- Robotics



# Simulator Showcase



11711 Marco Beach Drive  
Jacksonville FL 32224



## 20,000 SF

Available at WareWorks to house a first of its kind employer-driven simulator showcase.

# Community Partners & Investors



*Collaboration*

# WareWorks Founding Funders

| Tier 1                           | Tier 2                           | Tier 3                             | Tier 4                             |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>\$50,000</b><br>per year      | <b>\$100,000</b><br>per year     | <b>\$200,000</b><br>per year       | <b>\$500,000</b><br>per year       |
| 5-year total<br><b>\$250,000</b> | 5-year total<br><b>\$500,000</b> | 5-year total<br><b>\$1,000,000</b> | 5-year total<br><b>\$2,500,000</b> |



# Join The Movement

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