Credentials Overview — CAD Drafter

Credential Options	*Cost Details*
Solidworks Associate Certificate (Mechanical Drafter)/Solidworks *recommended A Solidworks Certification is proof of your cutting-edge skills in the Solidworks platform. Aside from proving your proficiency with the software, the certification also sets you apart from the rest of the crowd as a highly skilled designer or design engineer. The basic Solidworks Certification level is the perfect entry point for high school or college students who have undergone training in Solidworks but have no professional experience. Having a CSWA proves that you have the fundamental knowledge and skills to create basic models and concepts in Solidworks. In some states, applying for a CSWA has even become mandated for university students with CAD-related courses. Completion Time: **6-9 months.** Difficulty Level (Low, Moderate, High, Very High): **High.**	Exam: • $99.00 (Solidworks) Preparation: • $159.99 (Udemy)
Autodesk Certified Associate in CAD (Mechanical Design)/Autodesk + Pearson-Vue The Autodesk Certified User (ACU) certifications enhance student college applications and resumes, providing evidence of competency and proficiency. ACU certification is an excellent way for students with about 150 hours of real-world Autodesk software experience to validate their software skills. Earning User-level certifications while in school gives students confidence as they continue to master Autodesk products and pursue Professional-level certifications in the future. Training for requires Fusion360 software. Completion Time: **3-6 months.** Difficulty Level (Low, Moderate, High, Very High): **High.**	Exam: • $90.00 (Exam Voucher) • $108.00 (Exam Voucher+Retake) Preparation: • Autodesk courses are free for students.

Credentials & Coursework — CAD Drafter

Higher Ed Coursework (Year 3)

Course	Description	Approx. Cost*
CAD 115 Sketchup	Introduces techniques and common practices of 3D modeling using Sketchup software. Focuses on the creation and editing of virtual three-dimensional forms and volumes.	$800
CAD 202 Computer-Aided Drafting	Focuses on the construction of three-dimensional objects using the AutoCAD software.	$800
CAD 240 Inventor I + Autodesk	Introduces basic inventor applications of non-parametric modeling, three-dimensional parametric modeling, and visualization and animation of 3D modeling. The student learns to construct, modify, and manage models.	$800
CAD 255 Solidworks/Mechanical	Introduces parametric feature-based solid modeling 3D concepts to build confidence in 3D thinking and progresses to three-dimensional parameters	$800
CAD 259 Advanced Solidworks	Advanced applications of the 3D software SolidWorks. Management of design data, advanced assembly, analysis of models, documentation materials/parts lists, rendering, animation, and dynamic simulation and testing.	$800

*Training and Higher Ed Coursework may vary based on the needs of the employer and the trajectory of the apprentice. The above information suggests a sample of what the apprenticeship would entail.