

**Benigno (Ben) Cruz**  
**Director, Center for Advanced Automotive Technology**  
**Macomb Community College**

Ben Cruz is director of Macomb Community College's Center for Advanced Automotive Technology (CAAT). Funded by the National Science Foundation, Macomb's CAAT is an advanced technological education center that partners with industry, education, government and professional organizations to identify opportunities for the creation and adaptation of curricula in advanced automotive technology programs, helping students prepare for careers in new and developing technologies.

Prior to joining Macomb Community College in 2019, Cruz was senior engineering group manager for General Motors at the Warren Technical Center, managing the Climatic Wind Tunnels and HVAC System Test Simulation Laboratory. In his more than 40-year career with GM, he held several other roles in engineering, including managing the startup of a vehicle test group in Mexico, and leading the test and development engineers at the company's Desert Proving Ground in Mesa, Arizona

Cruz earned a bachelor of science in engineering from Arizona State University and a master's in business administration (international industrial management) from the University of Phoenix.

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