



NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.

A big milestone in our campaign to modernize higher education

March was a banner month in our campaign to modernize the Higher Education Act. Two bills introduced in the Senate will help working people advance their careers.

The **JOBS Act** is a bi-partisan bill that makes Pell grants available to hard-working Americans who want to pursue quality short-term training programs. And the **College Transparency Act** arms students, policymakers, and businesses with data they need on industries on the rise, the skills needed to land a job, and institutions and programs that will help them reach their career goals. Together, these bills give students, parents, employers, and policymakers peace of mind when it comes to ensuring access and quality of postsecondary programs.

[Read our analysis](#) of the two bills that work hand-in-hand to make higher ed work better.

[Take action](#) and help us **#MakePellWork**. Download our social media shareables about the JOBS Act.

Related news

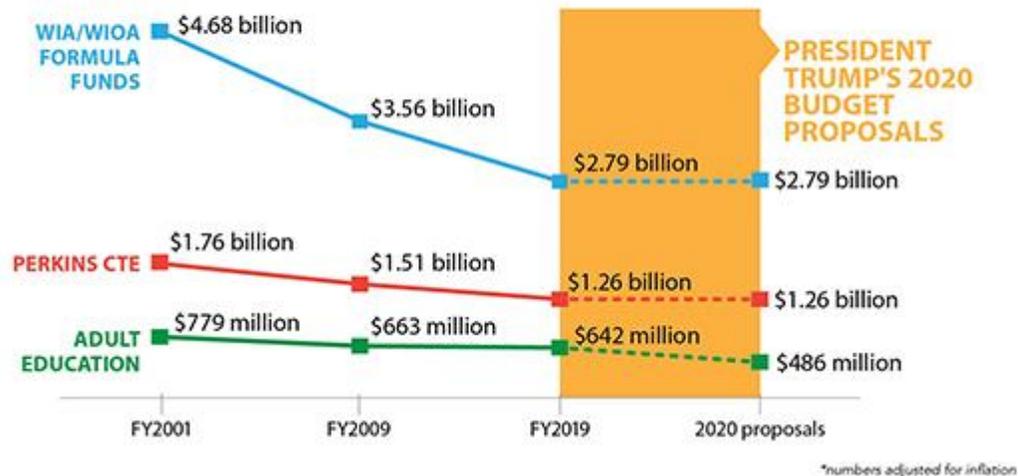
Some well regarded higher education advocates are still holding on to a belief that a traditional full-time college education is the only path to success. Authors of the JOBS Act, Senators Tim Kaine and Rob Portman responds in this [The New York Times letter](#).

[When Washington misses what some working Americans want from college](#) | NSC CEO Andy Van Kleunen weighs in in this Medium op-ed.

[JOBS Act would offer some workers more than \\$3,000 to learn new skills—here's how it works](#) | CNBC

[Making Financial Aid Work for Working Adults, Business, and US Economy](#) | *The EvoLLLution*, Katie Brown

After two decades of cuts, we need real investment in skills training.



After two decades of cuts to skills training programs, the President’s proposed budget for workforce and education programs falls short. This administration has made skills training and workforce development a high profile issue – but the enthusiasm has not been matched with the kind of robust investments workers and businesses need to compete in today’s economy.

[Read our full analysis of this skimpy workforce budget](#) – which recommends level funding or cuts to important programs at a time when increased investments are crucial to rectifying past cuts; and when [93% of voters support increased public investment in skills training](#).

[Take action:](#) Congress has the power to revitalize this funding and help people succeed in growing industries like medical technology, IT and software, advanced manufacturing and in trades like plumbing and electrical. [Tell Congress to invest in workforce and education programs today.](#)

Related news

[New opportunity for Trump to walk the talk on workforce training](#) | *The Hill* op-ed by Andy Van Kleunen

[Big talk but short shrift from Trump administration on workforce development](#) | *San Diego Union-Tribune* op-ed by Katie Spiker & Peter Callstrom

Time is running out: make your voice heard on a key safety net program



Our country's safety net programs should be about improving lives and giving people ladders of opportunity to build the skills they need to access good jobs with good wages. But the Trump administration keeps trying to put restrictions on certain recipients in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The Department of Agriculture has proposed a [new rule](#) that would restrict state flexibility to waive the three-month time limit that "able-bodied adults without dependents" can receive SNAP benefits.

We all know that being "able-bodied" isn't enough to get a good job with a living wage. We also know that time limits and work requirements trap people into poverty by forcing them into low-wage jobs with little to no opportunity for career advancement.

Will you tell the Trump administration to focus on investing in SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) programs? Here's a [comment template](#) you can use, including highlighted areas where you can personalize the comment to your organization. **Submit your comment online [here](#) on or before the April 2, 2019 deadline.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Skills Coalition is looking for a **State Network Manager**, **Events Manager**, and **Accounting Associate** to join our team. Visit [our website](#) to learn more about the positions and share with your networks.

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