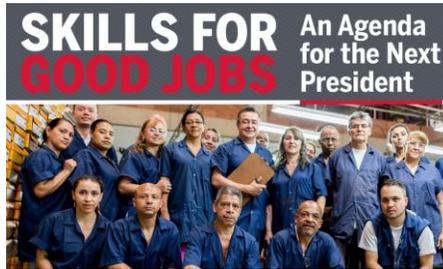




DECEMBER 2, 2016

Skills for Good Jobs: An Agenda for the Next President

Take a look at NSC's new blueprint for putting millions of young people and adults across the country on a pathway toward good paying, middle-skill jobs while helping American businesses compete and grow. We developed it in partnership with you – more than 200 individuals and organizations representing business, labor, colleges, anti-poverty groups, immigration and civil rights groups, and the public sector. It's a comprehensive, pioneering action plan that NSC hopes will serve as the beginning of a conversation with the incoming administration. Read the *Agenda* [here](#).



SWEAP update: leaders from seven states meet to advance use of data tools

On November 16-17, 40 leaders from seven states met in Chicago to advance the use of data tools to inform state workforce development policies. The State Workforce and Education Alignment Project (SWEAP) is creating better cross-program information that allows state policy leaders to see how these programs can work together to meet employer skill needs, and how individuals can advance through these programs over time in the pursuit of postsecondary credentials and higher-paying employment. Read more about the Forum on our [Skills Blog](#).



Join us for the 2017 Skills Summit!

Join colleagues from across the country to **connect**, **learn**, and **advocate** at National Skills Coalition's 2017 Skills Summit at the Capital Hilton in



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CONNECT WITH US



Washington on February 5-7, 2017. [Register now](#) to secure your spot!



Save the Date!
[Save May 4th-5th, 2017 for Apprenticeship Forward](#), a national conference of leading practitioners from the apprenticeship field including industry associations and employers; unions and labor-management partnerships; community-based organizations; community colleges; high schools; and workforce boards– as well as federal and state policymakers from throughout the country.



Registration will open in early 2017. Mark your calendar and join us at the Washington Hilton next May in Washington, DC.

Thank you for your quick action for skills!

Earlier this month, NSC sent [a letter](#) to House and Senate appropriators asking them to protect investments that prepare people for in-demand middle-skill jobs. **Thanks**



to you we sent that letter - with nearly 250 organizations signed on - over to Capitol Hill. NSC will be calling on you again in the coming months to add your voice to the chorus of stakeholders speaking up for workforce training, apprenticeship, postsecondary career and technical education, financial aid for working learners and adult basic education

What a year!

Due to your tireless work, 2016 has been a banner year for impacting policies that will help workers and businesses from around the country gain the skills they need to compete in a changing economy— together we've achieved **24**



policy changes in 19 states and 10 policy changes at the federal level! There have been almost 2,500 engagements between NSC allies and policymakers, including 1,511 in-person meetings or calls with congressional offices.

We're proud of what we accomplished this year, and with your support now, we'll be well positioned for success tomorrow. [Please send a tax-deductible contribution to NSC today.](#)

Join our online flash mob

Will you [join our online flash mob](#) urging Congress to **#investinskills**?



Next week, members of [Business Leaders United](#) are meeting with new leadership in the administration and in the 115th Congress. [Amplify their voice](#) by delivering a message on Twitter and Facebook while they're on Capitol Hill. And, share [this link](#) with other workforce advocates to join the call to **#investinskills**.

WDQC hosts quality assurance meeting

About 20 state agency, community college, and workforce program leaders met in Nashville this month to [develop policy recommendations](#) to help more students



access short-term occupational programs that lead to credentials with labor market value. WDQC organized the conversation to inform a report scheduled for publication in early 2017.

Meet Sapna and Jessica!

NSC welcomes Sapna Mehta and Jessica Cardott. As Senior State Policy Analyst, [Sapna](#) focuses on state policies that ensure workers and employers



have the skills to compete and prosper. [Jessica](#), NSC's new Field Coordinator, provides organizing support to maintain and grow the coalition's national network of stakeholders.

On the road with NSC

- CEO Andy Van Kleunen briefed the [National Retail Federation](#) and the [National Restaurant Association](#) on the election's implications for expanding public support for the upskilling of entry-level workers in Washington, D.C.
- Andy also presented to [Workforce Matters](#) foundations the path forward for NSC's "Skills for Good Jobs" plan with the incoming Trump administration and 115th Congress in Washington, D.C.
- Finally, Andy led a discussion about the past and potential future of federal sector partnership policies at [Center for American Progress](#) convening in Washington, D.C.
- Federal Policy Director Kermit Kaleba participated in a panel discussion on "New Opportunities to Connect Young People to Employment and Training" as part of the [Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative Fall Convening](#) in Clearwater Beach, FL
- Senior Policy Analyst Amanda Bergson-Shilcock traveled to Atlanta, GA to serve as a member of an advisory group for a workforce development and racial equity project, led by the nonprofit [Race Forward](#) and funded by the [W.K. Kellogg Foundation](#).
- Amanda presented a webinar on Sector Partnerships and Immigrant Workers to municipal and nonprofit leaders who are part of the [White House Building Welcoming Communities Campaign](#). Staff from longtime NSC member [BEST Corp. Hospitality Training Center](#) joined Amanda as guest presenters.
- Amanda also co-led a briefing on immigrant workforce policy for legislative staff and funders in Sacramento, CA, hosted by the [EDGE Campaign](#) and [Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees](#).
- WDQC Director Rachel Zinn spoke on a panel at a [National Governors Association](#) state policy academy in Des Moines, IA about scaling work-based learning.

Rachel spoke about ways to measure participation and outcomes.

- Rachel also presented at a meeting in Alexandria, VA, about helping states assess Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment & Training (SNAP E&T) through employment data linkages. The event was organized by the federal [Food and Nutrition Service](#) for regional administrators.
 - WDQC Policy Analyst Christina Pena presented on national data initiatives at the [National Association of State Workforce Agencies](#) (NASWA) LMI Committee meeting in Richmond, VA.
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