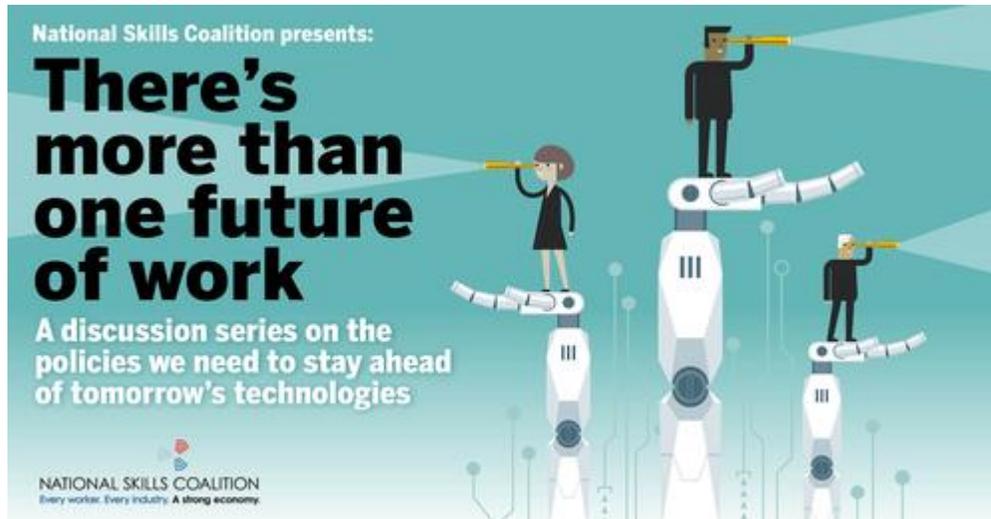




NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.



Everybody's talking about the Future of Work - but they don't necessarily want to have the same discussion—nor should they. That's why National Skills Coalition is sponsoring a series of events in our nation's capital—and livestreamed to the rest of the country—to unpack how different industries, different groups of workers, and different sized companies will each face unique challenges as automation, artificial intelligence and digitalization redefine skilled work in the U.S. As our nation's leaders assess policy options proposed to respond to these changes, they need to pay attention to these various *FutureS* of work.

[Join us via Facebook Live](#) for our first discussion: **Uneven Prospects for Different Workers** at 9:00 am February 6.

To attend future "There's more than one future of work" events or livestreams, [visit our event page](#).



National Skills Coalition launches [SkillSPAN](#) (Skills State Policy Advocacy Network), a first-ever nationwide network of non-partisan coalitions that will bring skills and job training opportunities to thousands of people through policy changes in 25 states over the next five years.

SkillSPAN will pass policies in the postsecondary education, workforce training, adult education, career and technical education, and safety net arenas to expand economic opportunities for workers and their families while boosting local business capacity.

We are launching this network at a critical time: skills training is a popular, bipartisan issue and many of the country's governors ran on skills training as a critical plank in their education and economic platforms. SkillSPAN is poised to help these and other state leaders deliver on their skills training promises and address key economic challenges in their states.

Click [here](#) to learn more about SkillSPAN and [here](#) to learn more about NSC's work in the states.

Announcing the 2019 National Advisory Panels

National Skills Coalition (NSC) is pleased to announce our [2019 National Advisory Panels](#), representing a nationwide slate of practitioner leaders that provide to NSC a diversity of lenses that shape our coalition's skills platform, and robust networks and innovative strategies to advance that platform. The National Advisory Panels include experts on the intersection between skills and racial equity, work-based learning, post-secondary education, and safety net policy.



PUBLICATIONS

Better Together: How adult education/CTE collaborations benefit workers and business



[Better Together](#) details how advocates can create new upskilling opportunities, meet local business needs for skilled workers, and streamline training costs by launching partnerships between adult education organizations and Career and Technical Education (CTE) providers.

The brief highlights an example from El Paso, Texas where local school district leaders have capitalized on opportunities under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to improve alignment between the adult education and CTE systems. Learn more about the report [here](#).



Partnering Up: How industry partnerships can bring work-based learning to scale

Robust, local, industry-driven industry partnerships can help businesses get apprenticeship programs up and running. [Partnering up: how industry partnerships can bring work-based learning to scale](#), details how partnerships between the workforce, education, and human services systems can take apprenticeships to scale.

Closing Georgia's skills gap through financial aid

Georgia has a lot of job openings in high demand fields, but not enough trained workers to meet employer demand. Making a few common sense policy changes to increase the number of Georgians with associates' degrees would go a long way in closing the state's skills gap.



Learn more about how expanding HOPE Career Grants to include associates degrees and extending the time students can earn the HOPE scholarship could help in our new brief, [Closing Georgia's Skills Gap through Financial Aid](#), authored in partnership with several Georgia-based organizations - [Georgia Budget and Policy Institute](#), [Atlanta CareerRise](#), the [Metro Atlanta Chamber](#), and the [Atlanta Civic Site of the Annie E. Casey Foundation](#).

An [op/ed](#) in the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* by NSC's State Policy Director, Melissa Johnson, explains why Georgia should extend their HOPE scholarships to people looking for associate's degrees. A [recent NSC publication](#) also makes the case that expanding HOPE Career Grants can help to close Georgia's skills gap.



Saying Yes to State Longitudinal Data Systems: Building and maintaining cross agency relationships

A new case study from the Workforce Data Quality Campaign illustrates how Kentucky and Virginia have built support for their state longitudinal data systems (SLDS) amongst state agencies and provides recommendations for other states looking to do the same. Read more about the case study on [our blog](#) and click [here](#) to download the full paper.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NSC is growing!

In the past few months, NSC has welcomed 7 new [staff members](#) and grown our team to 27 people. [Raquel Wright](#) joins NSC's operations and finance team as Controller. New Grants Manager, [Trista Kendall](#) helps donors match their skills policy vision with NSC's work. [Andrew Bradley](#) joins as NSC's new State Network Director. He leads the development, growth, and promotion of SkillSPAN. State Policy Analyst [Molly Bashay](#) works to advance skills policies through research and analysis of state workforce policies, advocacy assistance, and policy implementation support. NSC's communications team has two new members: [Ayobami Olugbemiga](#) is NSC's first Press Secretary and Communications Associate [Mia Young](#) provides communications support. [Amy Ellen Duke-Benfield](#) serves as NSC's organizational expert on state postsecondary policy development and implementation.

FROM THE SKILLS BLOG

- [State of skills training](#)
- [The President and Congress lay a foundation for evidence-based policy making](#)
- [Understanding the new evaluation of WIA: It doesn't say what you might think it says](#)
- [Michigan invests \\$1 million in integrated education and training](#)

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