



# NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.

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## What is “workforce development”?

Workforce development is coming up a lot in Washington this week. First, President Trump talked up workforce development and career and technical education in his State of the Union address. Now, Speaker Paul Ryan is talking about workforce development as part of his vision for changing antipoverty programs.

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It's important, though, that we be clear about what “workforce development” means. Workforce development is about **investing in people**, and making sure that workers and businesses have the skills they need to compete in today's economy. And it's about **investing in proven strategies** that connect workers with skills training and career pathways that lead to skilled, well-paying jobs at growing companies.

**THIS vision for workforce development has bipartisan support** – and policymakers on both sides of the aisle are working together on commonsense strategies.

With your input, NSC has developed our [Skills for Good Jobs Agenda 2018](#) – twelve real, robust workforce development policies that go beyond the buzzwords. Many of these ideas have already been developed into bipartisan legislation that's moving through Congress. This stuff is truly workforce development in action - and with our advocacy, it's going to transform our workforce by helping workers and businesses get the skills they need.

We all already know workforce development is at the heart of so many of our country's challenges: It's how we'll transform our nation's postsecondary education system into an engine for economic opportunity and growth. It will be the vehicle for developing a million much-needed apprentices. It will play a part in reducing poverty by delivering in-demand training and skills.

The timing of all this couldn't be better. Next week, more than 300 workforce development advocates are coming to Washington for our Skills Summit, and we're headed straight to Capitol Hill to talk about workforce development with this bipartisan agenda in hand.

We've got lots to accomplish. It's [not too late to join us](#) on Capitol Hill next week.

Thanks for being a part of our coalition.

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