



# NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.

## Help us end the bias against working students!

As Congress works to reauthorize the Higher Education Act, NSC is making the case for students enrolled in valuable, short-term job training programs to be eligible for financial aid. Nearly [half of all job openings](#) between now and 2024 will be “middle-skill” jobs that require education beyond high school but not a four-year degree. Despite this reality, Pell grants can’t be applied toward many high quality programs that prepare students for in-demand careers, just because they’re short term. This is an unfair bias against working students.

### CONNECT WITH US



Senators Tim Kaine (D-VA) and Rob Portman (R-OH) introduced the bipartisan [Jumpstart our Businesses By Supporting Students \(JOBS\) Act](#) — legislation which would end Pell’s bias against working students while keeping training programs in line with the needs of local and regional industries.

At a recent Senate HELP Committee hearing about federal financial aid, [Senator Kaine asked](#) witnesses for their perspectives on expanding Pell. Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart, President of Amarillo College in Texas, underscored the importance of extending Pell, saying it would really meet an economic need in his community.

You can stand with Senator Kaine, Senator Portman, and other JOBS Act advocates by urging your Senators to end the bias against working students and [support the JOBS Act today!](#)

## Watch the video here!



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