



# NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

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## Goals of Trump executive order on workforce must be backed up with investments

Today, President Trump will sign an executive order aimed at prioritizing workforce development.

It is always good news when any White House highlights the need for the U.S. to better invest in its working people. National Skills Coalition has long supported several of the goals of President Trump's executive order: increasing [apprenticeships](#), [data transparency](#) that helps students and businesses get the skills they need to succeed, and [business efforts to upskill](#) their workforces.

But we'll need to see more. At a White House event later today, a number of our nation's leading companies are stepping up to pledge their own investments in the skills of current and future employees. Yet, to put a dent in our nation's skills gap, they will need an equally aggressive investment partner in our federal government.

Unfortunately, we have not seen a commitment from the Trump administration to ramp up investments in America's workers. Innovative workforce efforts that have strong, bipartisan support in congress are underfunded after [a decade of cuts](#), and the president's own budget [proposed even deeper cuts](#) to career and technical education, adult basic education, and to WIOA – the landmark bipartisan legislation designed to strengthen our workforce system. The [\\$150 million in funding for expanding apprenticeships](#) that the administration announced yesterday is a great first step but it can't stop there.

We also welcome the proposed interagency council and advisory group and strongly support efforts to strengthen coordination and alignment across federal workforce and education investments.

However we urge the council to avoid the tired path of program consolidation and elimination. We can't compete if we cut.

We hope this marks a positive turning point in the [inconsistent narrative](#) from the administration on the importance of workforce and education programs. NSC and its business and workforce members stand ready to engage in that discussion.

Stay tuned to the [Skills Blog](#) for a full analysis of the president's executive order.

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