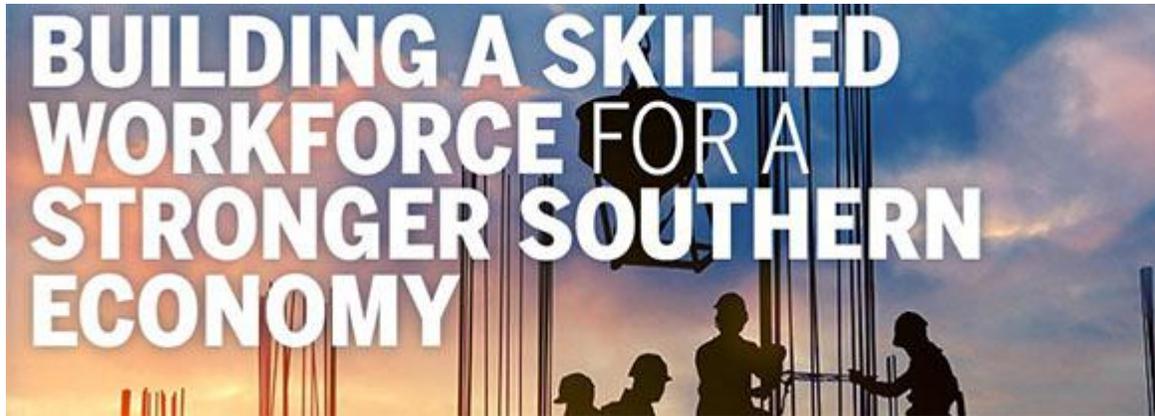




# NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.



Southern states must adapt to an economy in which most jobs require training beyond high school, according to a new report from NSC and the Federal Reserve Banks of Atlanta and St. Louis, entitled [Building a Skilled Workforce for a Stronger Southern Economy](#).

Across the South, there are not enough workers trained to fill middle-skill jobs. **If all the South's graduating high school students were to stay in the region and train for open jobs that require postsecondary education, there would still be unfilled positions.** To close this skills gap, states could work to educate more of the region's adults.

NSC's Senior State Policy Analyst, Melissa Johnson has been on the road sharing some of the report's findings:

- On May 16<sup>th</sup>, Melissa and Stuart Andreason, Director of the [Center for Workforce & Economic Opportunity at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta](#) spoke to [MDC's Network for Southern Economic Mobility](#).
- On May 21<sup>st</sup>, she spoke about the skills gap in southern states on a panel at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta as a part of a research workshop co-sponsored by the Bank's [Center for Workforce & Economic Opportunity](#) and the [W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research](#).

## RELATED NEWS



Despite Washington's reputation for slowing down during the summer, there has been a lot of action on workforce issues.

Late last week, the Senate rejected a last-minute amendment to the Farm Bill that would have expanded work requirements. Ultimately, they approved a bill that provides new funding to support innovative state efforts to [expand training for SNAP recipients](#). Thanks to many of you who took action and asked your senators not to derail this critical legislation - it's a big win for SNAP and workforce advocates.

A newly introduced bill designed to promote apprenticeships would support industry partnerships and expand business capacity to run work-based learning programs. Read more on Senator Baldwin's (D-WI) bill, [the PARTNERS Act](#), in our blog.

NSC is urging Congress to pass a bipartisan bill that would [modernize the Perkins Act](#). It's the primary federal law supporting career and technical education.

We strongly oppose a Trump Administration [proposal to restructure the federal government](#) that would merge the Departments of Labor and Education into a single "Department of Education and the Workforce". This proposal would eliminate critical workforce and education programs, expand ineffective work requirements, and cut income supports for low-income workers.

Finally, a bipartisan funding bill for workforce and education programs [is moving forward in the Senate](#) – stay tuned to the Skills Blog for updates.



[Trump's Proposed Merger of Labor, Education Raises Questions](#), *Society for Human Resources Management*

From *Inside Higher Ed*: [An 'Education and the Workforce' Agency?](#) and [Senate Jump-Starts Process for New Career-Education Law](#)

[Older Foster Youth Would Be Challenged by Proposed Work Requirements for Food Stamps](#), *The Chronicle of Social Change*

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## Stranded workers are finding that the market for their skills is disappearing



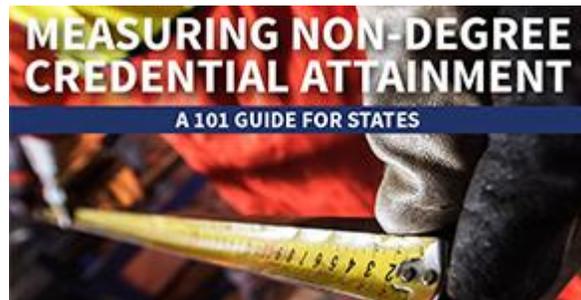
Technology and market forces are changing the workplace, talent needs of employers, and the skills workers need to stay in the game. [Read how the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office](#) is thinking about the future of work and helping stranded workers prepare for jobs in the 21st century. NSC board member Van Ton-Quinlivan, Executive Vice Chancellor of Workforce and Digital Futures, California Community Colleges and NSC's Federal Policy Director, Kermit Kaleba collaborated on this

Medium piece. It is the first in a series about the future of work.

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## Helping states measure non-degree credential attainment

Data on non-degree credentials can help states measure progress in meeting goals for educational attainment, including equitable attainment. And, data can also help states determine whether training opportunities really line up with employer demand. WDQC's newest publication, [Measuring Non-Degree Credential Attainment: A 101 Guide for States](#), provides states with a step-by-step guide on how to measure non-degree credential attainment.



If you're a skills advocate who wants to know how states are collecting this data, check out the recording of [WDQC's related webinar](#).

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### Welcome Yasmin!

NSC is excited to welcome [Yasmin Khan](#) to the team. As Chief Development Officer, Yasmin Khan leads and elevates National Skills Coalition's (NSC) outreach and fundraising. She connects a wide range of audiences to inspire and expand support for NSC's mission, enabling the organization to meet the growing demands for its work.

### We're Hiring!

We are seeking a Controller to manage NSC's financial operations. Find the [full job description here](#) and share with your networks.

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**FROM THE SKILLS BLOG**

[House Labor-HHS bill includes cuts to workforce programs coupled with boost for CTE](#)

[BLS Survey on Contingent Workforce Reveals more Continuity than Change](#)

[Immigrants can help meet demand for middle-skill workers](#)

[Anticipated new “Public Charge” rules would undercut skills policies](#)

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