



NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION
Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.

E-NEWS

NOVEMBER 1, 2017

You're invited! Join us for the 2018 Skills Summit

Scheduled for February 6-8 at the Omni

Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., the 2018 Skills Summit will focus on opportunities to advance a national skills agenda through a range of federal policies, including work-based learning, public assistance, higher education, immigration, and funding. Attendees will also have a full day on Capitol Hill, educating lawmakers on how federal policy might better support efforts to skill our nation's workforce. [Learn more and register today.](#)



Reps. Bonamici and Ferguson introduce bipartisan PARTNERS Act

On October 25, Representatives Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) and Drew Ferguson (R-GA) introduced the

bipartisan [Promoting Apprenticeship with Regional Training Networks for Employers Required Skills \(PARTNERS\) Act of 2017](#). The bill would support partnerships between businesses and other local workforce stakeholders to enable small- and medium-sized employers to develop and expand – and workers to succeed in – work-based learning programs. [Read more in the Skills Blog.](#)



[Urge your representatives to support the PARTNERS Act!](#)

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NSC IN THE NEWS

[Rubio's staff visiting PGT to explore skills gap and workforce policy](#) | Sarasota Herald-Tribune, 10.01.17

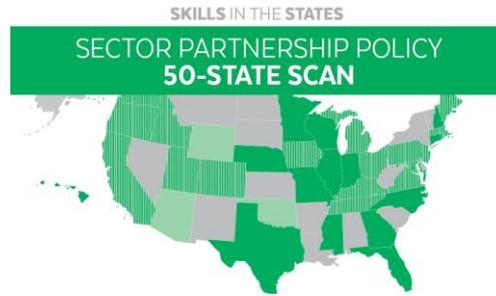
[How to fill the skills gap for small business? Try training](#) | Capitol One, Spark Business, 10.03.17

[Enlighten Me: middle skill jobs in the](#)

NSC's updated 50-State Scan discovers increased support for sector partnerships

National Skills Coalition has updated our 50-state scan of sector partnership policies and finds that state policies

supporting sector partnerships are rapidly growing. Sector partnerships are collaborations of employers with education, training, labor, and community-based organizations to address the local skill needs of a particular industry. Sector partnerships are a proven strategy for helping workers prepare for middle-skill jobs and helping employers find skilled workers. States can support local sector partnerships through program initiatives, technical assistance, and funding. [See the 2017 50-State Scan.](#)



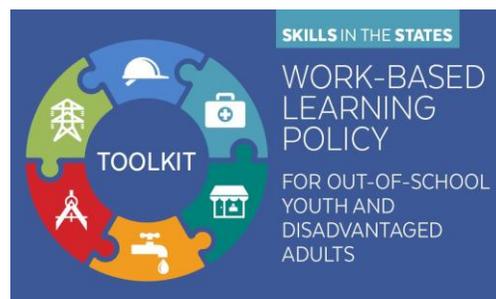
Can your organization support the College Transparency Act?

The College Transparency Act is bipartisan legislation that would create a secure, privacy-protected postsecondary data system at the U.S. Department of Education, and would provide more students with better information when making critical decisions about their studies and careers. And, educators, employers, and policymakers would know which postsecondary programs prepare students for jobs. [Can your organization join this statement of support?](#)

This evening, a special event on the House floor will highlight the College Transparency Act. Workforce Data Quality Campaign, together with Postsecondary Data Collaborative are collecting signatures to urge Members to co-sponsor this legislation – [can your organization sign on today?](#)

NSC releases State Policy Toolkit on work-based learning for out-of-school youth and disadvantaged adults

Many states [have enacted policies](#) to increase the scope of work-based learning that combines instruction at a worksite with classroom learning. Few of these state policies, however, focus on low-skilled populations of out-of-school youth or disadvantaged adults. NSC's scan, for example,



10.06.17

[The forgotten 90%: adult nonparticipation in education](#) | SAGE Journals, 10.06.17

[Service sector basic skills gap in US – 62% of workers have limited literacy skills, and an even higher 74% have limited numeracy skills](#) | Job Market Monitor, 10.10.17

[Report: More training needed to fill New York's "middle skills jobs"](#) | City and State New York, 10.10.17

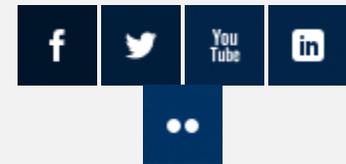
[Policy trends and resources that support adult-learners](#) | Democracy's College Podcast, 10.17.17

[Calif. Uses Perkins funds to create 'ecosystem of intrapreneurs'](#) | Community College Daily, 10.21.17

[Nevada's Promise: Free college means skilled graduates](#) | Reno Gazette Journal, 10.24.17

[Public college, industry credentials](#) | Inside Higher Ed, 10.21.17

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found that among the fourteen states that have policies supporting pre-apprenticeships or youth apprenticeships, all fourteen states target in-school youth. While disadvantaged adults may be among those who benefit in the twenty-six states that have work-based learning policies that support adult training, very few of these policies specifically target disadvantaged adults. [Learn more and get the toolkit.](#)

National Skills Coalition hosts second Skills in the States Forum



On October 3-4, well over 100 workforce development leaders from twenty-nine states gathered in Nashville, Tennessee, to take part in NSC's second Skills in the States Forum. This yearly Forum provides an opportunity for advocates, researchers, practitioners, and others to share ideas on how to move skills policies forward in their states, while also elevating policy wins and examples from states across the nation. The Forum is also a venue for state partners to discuss pressing topics in workforce development, such as apprenticeship and work-based learning, upskilling, and equity. [Learn more about the Forum.](#)

National Skills Coalition releases comments on the Presidential executive order expanding apprenticeships in america



In June, the President signed an Executive Order (EO), "Expanding Apprenticeships in America." The Secretary of Labor recently announced the members of the Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion called for in the EO to advise the agency on the promotion of apprenticeship models across a range of industries, including new "industry recognized" apprenticeship programs. National Skills Coalition supports efforts to expand apprenticeship and work-based learning, ensuring that a broad range of businesses – including small and medium sized employers – are able to take advantage of these earn and learn models. [See NSC's recommendations on next steps.](#)

Labor Department announces apprenticeship task force members

The U.S. Department of Labor [announced](#) the members of the President’s Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion, a new advisory group that will advise the agency on the promotion of apprenticeship models across a range of industries, including new “industry-recognized” apprenticeship programs outside of the traditional registered apprenticeship system. [Read more about the task force and its membership.](#)



Representative DeLauro and Senator Murray call on Secretary of Labor Acosta to describe next steps on expanding apprenticeship

On October 13 Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) sent a [joint letter](#) to Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta expressing concern over the Department of Labor’s (DOL) recent cancelation of several [ApprenticeshipUSA equity and intermediary contracts](#) and inaction on a next round of funding under the [State Apprenticeship Expansion \(SAE\) grants](#). Rep. DeLauro and Sen. Murray, both Congressional appropriators, called on DOL to continue funding these efforts and voiced concerns about the Secretary’s intended steps to implement President Trump’s June 15, 2017, Executive Order, “[Expanding Apprenticeship in America](#).” [Visit the Skills Blog to learn more.](#)



59 Senators join bipartisan letter in support of Perkins Act reauthorization

On October 11, a bipartisan group of 59 Senators submitted a [letter](#) to leaders of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions



(HELP) Committee encouraging the committee to take up legislation to reauthorize the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act as soon as possible. The letter, which was led by Sens. James Inhofe (R-OK) and Claire McCaskill (D-MO), calls for reauthorization efforts to focus on key areas where current law can be improved. [Read the recommendations.](#)

On the road with NSC

- CEO Andy Van Kleunen presented coordinated workforce and higher education policy options to state officials and advocates from Rhode Island convened by [Postsecondary Commissioner](#), and NSC Board Secretary, Brenda Dann-Messier in Providence, R.I. on October 13.
- Federal Policy Director Kermit Kaleba participated in a panel discussion on *African American Employment, Population & Housing Trends in Washington, D.C.*, hosted by [Georgetown University's Public Policy Initiative](#) on October 12.
- Kermit also participated in a plenary session on “The New Administration: Impact on Workforce Education Policy at the State and Federal Levels” at the [National Council for Workforce Education](#) conference in Salt Lake City, U.T. on October 26.
- Director of Upskilling Policy Amanda Bergson-Shilcock presented at the biannual convening of the [Aspen Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund](#). Her presentation focused on Building Inclusive Policies: Ideas for Serving Opportunity Youth who are Immigrants and/or English Learners.
- Amanda also participated in two panel discussions as part of the [Welcoming Economies \(WE\) Global Network convening](#) in Syracuse, N.Y. She discussed examples of upskilling and re-skilling programs for immigrants as part of the [WES Global Talent Bridge/IMPRINT](#) pre-conference convening, and participated in a panel on WIOA and immigrants during the conference itself.
- Senior Federal Policy Analyst Katie Spiker gave a federal policy update on issues impacting apprenticeship programs to attendees at [the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades](#) Director of Training Meeting on October 24.
- WDQC Policy Analyst, Jenna Leventoff, [testified](#) at the Council of the District of Columbia's Committee on Labor and Workforce Development hearing about B22-0401, the [Workforce Development System Transparency Act of 2017](#).

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