



NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.



There's some fresh momentum in our campaign to change the Pell grant program!

As you know, currently, people can't use Pell grants for short-term programs – even if they prepare people for in-demand jobs. And that amounts to an unfair bias against working people who want to upskill. But, a new bill in the House, the Aim Higher Act, would extend Pell grants to short-term academic or job training courses.

The Aim Higher Act was introduced by Democrats, but at this point, Republicans, Democrats, and President Trump have all demonstrated their support for this commonsense idea – because it would give people the skills they need to compete and give businesses a pipeline of trained, skilled employees.

NSC has long been advocating for this change. Head over to our [skills blog](#) to read our analysis of the bill and see how it compares to the Republicans' bill, the PROSPER Act, or the bipartisan bill – the JOBS Act.



Workforce Data Quality Campaign spent the summer advocating for data systems that would give students, businesses, and policymakers information on program costs, completion rates, and employment and wage outcomes. They're out with three new papers aimed at helping data advocates make the case for transparent postsecondary data.

- [Workforce success relies on transparent postsecondary data](#): reviews why existing data systems cannot provide key information on postsecondary programs and explains the changes needed to

provide students and others with the information they need.

- [Costs of State Longitudinal Data Systems](#): These systems can be used to provide information about how a state's education and workforce system is performing, or to help students select the best program for them. The paper explores how the costs of building and maintaining SLDS can be adjusted to fit a state's needs.
- [Making Wage Data Work](#): reviews options to establish a secure resource of employment and earnings data. This resource could be used to produce better information on the labor market outcomes of education and workforce programs.

RELATED NEWS

Ohio business owner and Business Leaders United for Workforce Partnerships member, Randy Bennett, a small business owner in Ohio and member of Business Leaders United for Workforce Partnerships, collaborated with Cuyahoga Community College on [an op/ed](#) urging legislators to pass the College Transparency Act because data is important to businesses, students, and the economy.

[Feds Say Marketplace Will Expose Bad Colleges, But States Find It's Not So Easy](#) | *PEW Stateline*, 8/22/18

Want women apprentices? The answer is child care



Child care costs can make pre-apprenticeship programs nearly impossible for women and parents. For populations that, historically, have had less access to apprenticeships, these opportunities can seem out of reach because they lack occupational skills training and have an unfamiliarity with job sites and industries that hire apprentices.

Read our brief, [Broadening the apprenticeship pipeline](#) to learn more about how supports like child care and pre-apprenticeship training can be the on-ramp to successful apprenticeships and work-based learning programs.

NSC IN THE NEWS



An [op/ed](#) in the *Jackson Clarion Ledger* by Corey Wiggins, Executive Director of the NAACP of Mississippi explains why the south must take an intentional approach to address the barriers that keep people of color from accessing opportunities to earn the credentials they need to secure good jobs. A [recent NSC publication](#) also makes the case that a thriving southern economy must be an inclusive one.

[Kermit Kaleba Discusses the Skilled Worker Shortage](#) | *CSPAN, Washington Journal*, 8/8/18

[DOL Supports Industry-Certified Apprenticeship Programs](#) | *Society for Human Resources Management*, 8/15/18

[Updated Perkins Act Places Greater Emphasis on Work-Based Learning](#) | *The Chronicle for Social Change*, 8/23/18

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Save the date! Join us for the 2019 Skills Summit

Mark your calendars for February 5-7, 2019 and join us in Washington, DC for the 2019 Skills Summit! Registration opens in September with a reduced Early Bird rate and hotel discount available until Thanksgiving weekend. For more information, reach out to [Jessica Cardott](#). See you in February!

Join our team!

We are seeking a Grants Manager to work closely with the Chief Development Officer in coordinating the cultivation, solicitation, and deliverables for the high volume of foundations that support NSC. Find the full job description [here](#) and share with your networks.

The Ford Foundation seeks a dynamic, strategic leader to serve as a Program Officer in its new 'Future of Work' (FoW) program area. Learn more about the position [here](#).

The **U.S. Department of Commerce** is accepting nominations for the American Policy Advisory Board. [Click here](#) for more details on the application process.

FROM THE SKILLS BLOG

- See how [Michigan is making WIOA work for immigrants](#), as well as their [desk-ready checklist](#) and [training guide](#) that could be a model for other states.
 - [New WIOA community engagement guide aims to bolster nonprofit input in planning process](#)
 - [DOL releases guidance on “industry-recognized” apprenticeship programs](#)
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