



# Green Jobs

A core focus of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is to create or save as many as four million jobs, in part through significant new investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy. The legislation includes more than \$71 billion in investments in clean energy programs, including \$500 million for green job training. We strongly support and appreciate such funding, and urge Congress to ensure that all workers benefit from this training to help realize the greatest return on investment.

Green jobs are family-supporting jobs that contribute significantly to preserving or enhancing environmental quality. The majority of current and future jobs in the green economy are middle-skill jobs, requiring training beyond high school, but less than a four-year degree. Green middle-skill jobs range from entry-level to high-wage in diverse industries, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, and biofuels. Within these industries, green jobs include building, construction, assembly, installation, operation, maintenance, transportation, and manufacturing. Training policies and investments should be targeted to meet this labor market demand.

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## ➔ Ensure that investments in green jobs under the recovery bill meet the skill needs of workers and employers.

Congress should work with the Departments of Labor, Commerce, Energy and other agencies receiving green job funds to promote sector partnerships and career pathways—the “Pathways out of Poverty” Section of the Green Jobs Act provides models for both—as key components of green job training programs.

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## ➔ Incorporate training for green jobs in climate change legislation

Congress should adopt climate change policies that both address pressing environmental concerns and maximize fairness, opportunity, and equity for all individuals and communities. Toward this end, Congress should ensure that a significant portion of revenue generated by policies such as “cap and trade” is invested in green job training programs.

### National Skills Coalition

seeks an America that grows its economy by investing in its people, so that every worker and every industry has the skills to compete and prosper.

We organize broad-based coalitions seeking to raise the skills of America’s workers across a range of industries. We advocate for public policies that invest in what works, as informed by our members’ real-world expertise. We communicate these goals to an American public seeking a vision for a strong U.S. economy that allows everyone to be part of its success.

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