



The View from Washington



[Watch](#) as National Skills Coalition Executive Director Andy Van Kleunen discusses the latest developments in Washington and in the states to ensure that every worker and every industry gains the skills to compete and prosper in today's economy.

In Washington

Coalition Members Weigh in with USDA on SNAP Employment & Training Program
On June 9, National Skills Coalition, with the support of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, worked with national partners to organize a meeting with Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services Kevin Concannon to discuss the [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment & Training program](#) (formerly FSET). [Representatives](#) from five states (ME, IA, CT, MA, and WA) participated in the dialogue, demonstrating how their programs were effectively using SNAP E&T funds to connect low-income individuals with the training and supportive services needed to pursue career pathways leading to good jobs.



Under Secretary Concannon, Chris Hastedt, Jessica Bisson and Mary Henderson



Washington Update: Extenders Bill, Senate OJT Act, and More

In this month's [Washington Update](#) read the latest news on congressional efforts to pass the Extenders legislation, learn about the new On-the-Job Training Act introduced in the Senate, and discover new grant opportunities from the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services.

In the States

Skills2Compete Maryland Launches New Website
On June 30, Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown announced the launch of a new website for the [Skills2Compete Maryland initiative](#). The site serves as a one-stop portal providing information and

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resources on middle-skill jobs, training programs, financial resources and fastest growing occupations that require some training beyond high school, but not a four-year degree. The site also features a video message from Governor Martin O'Malley encouraging all Marylanders to obtain at least two years of education or training beyond high school.



Governor O'Malley [launched](#) Skills2Compete Maryland in March and set an ambitious goal to increase Maryland's skilled workforce by 20 percent by 2012. Governor O'Malley selected Lt. Governor Brown to lead the initiative and work with the Governor's Workforce Investment Board, led by NSC Leadership Council member Eric Seleznow, to ensure system alignment, promote interagency coordination and collaboration, and conduct outreach.

New Podcast Available: Engaging Gubernatorial Races, Getting Skills in the Debate

In case you missed it, download NSC's [latest podcast](#). Listen as our partners from Massachusetts, Michigan and New Mexico discuss their efforts to engage gubernatorial candidates and get "skills" in the campaign debates and hear from a legal expert about the five things nonprofits need to know about advocacy during an election cycle.



Speaker Pelosi Hosts Recovery Roundtable at JVS San Francisco

On June 4, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi [hosted](#) a roundtable discussion on Recovery Act funding for jobs at the [Jewish Vocational Service \(JVS\)](#) of San Francisco. JVS Executive Director and NSC Leadership Council member Abby Snay introduced Speaker Pelosi who spoke about Recovery Act funded initiatives and their positive impact on job creation in the Bay Area. [Watch](#) a clip of the Speaker's remarks and read coverage of the event in the [San Francisco Chronicle](#).



Abby Snay and Speaker Pelosi

Secretary Solis visits Macomb Community College, Announces Funds to Help Workers Re-Train

Macomb Community College President and NSC Leadership Council member Jim Jacobs [welcomed](#) Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis and Ed Montgomery, outgoing Executive Director of the White House Council on Automotive Communities and Workers, to his campus on June 17. During the visit, the Secretary [announced](#) the release of nearly \$21 million in Trade Adjustment Assistance reserve funds and \$19 million in regional economic impact national emergency grants to help connect trade-impacted Michiganders with job training and reemployment services.

Middle-Skill Jobs in the Spotlight at Wisconsin Regional Workforce Event
National Skills Coalition Regional Field Director Andrea Ray delivered the key-note address on middle-skill jobs at the June 3rd WIRED Regional Innovation Showcase featuring training initiatives in emerging and growing industries in twelve Southern Wisconsin counties. Participants discussed federal



Andrea Ray and

Partner Resources

[Dollars and Sense: How "Career First" Programs Like Year Up Benefit Youth and Employers](#) – a new report by [Jobs for the Future](#) – profiles [Year Up](#), a national effort to improve the postsecondary educational and employment outcomes for urban young adults.

[Chicago Jobs Council's](#) latest policy brief, [Lessons from the Recovery Act: Opportunities for Young People in 2009 Reveals Need for Permanent Summer Employment Strategy](#), offers recommendations for improving programming, implementation, administration, and the overall positive impact of future summer youth employment programs.

[Register](#) for [National Network of Sector Partnerships'](#) (NNSP) next webinar – *Strategic Doing for Sector Initiatives* – and join them in Jackson, MS, July 8-9 for the [Pathways to Prosperity Mid-South conference](#).

[PHI's](#) Health Care for Health Care Workers [campaign](#) has released a [fact sheet](#) highlighting key health reform provisions related to investments in direct-care worker training and workforce development.

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