



## NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.

# E-News.

March 7, 2011

2011 Skills Summit Attendees Deliver United Message to Washington: Don't Cut Critical Workforce Investments

Delegations of local business, labor, college and workforce leaders from 22 different states came to Washington, DC, February 15-16 to call for investments in effective education and training strategies at NSC's [2011 Skills Summit](#). In addition to taking part in over 100 meetings with Members of Congress, attendees met with officials from DOL's Employment and Training Administration, DHHS's Administration for Children and Families, and the U.S. Small Business Administration as well as staff from the Senate HELP Committee. Attendees called for critical investments in proven education, training, and postsecondary strategies to help ensure America is ready to get back to work. Visit the [Summit webpage](#) to download event materials, including policy and budget briefings, and [view photos](#).



### NSC Names Abby Snay 2010 Skills Champion, Recognizes Outstanding Member Advocates

At the 2011 Skills Summit awards ceremony, NSC Executive Director Andy Van Kleunen presented San Francisco JVS Executive Director and NSC Leadership Council Member Abby Snay with its 2010 Skills Champion Award. Abby receives this award for her tireless efforts to advance a broad national skills agenda, including her advocacy and work to host then-Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi for a site visit at JVS during the summer of 2010, which played an instrumental role in moving the SECTORS Act through the House with unanimous bi-partisan support. [Learn more](#) about Abby's achievements.



A number of other NSC members and coalitions received recognition at the awards ceremony. Alice Pritchard, Executive Director for Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund, received the 2010 Action Alert Award for responding to every NSC call to action. Members of the Ohio and Oregon Skills Summit delegations were honored for collecting the most SECTORS Act endorsements and the Illinois, Iowa, Maine, and Vermont Skills Summit delegations for scheduling the most hill visits. The Skills2Compete-Indiana campaign was recognized for earning the most media hits of any state campaign, and the Skills2Compete-Massachusetts campaign for placing the most op-eds. [View photos](#) of all our winners!

Washington Update, NSC Podcast: The Latest on the Fiscal Year

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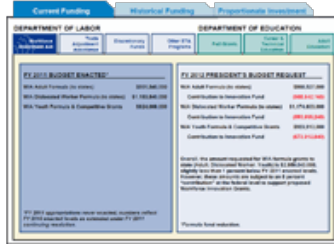
2011, 2012 Budgets

[Read](#) this month's Washington Update and [download](#) a podcast of NSC's February 28 Budget Audio Update to learn the latest on the Fiscal Year 2011 appropriations process—including the Continuing Resolution—and President Obama's Fiscal Year 2012 budget proposal for workforce programs under the Departments of Labor and Education. For a detailed analysis, download NSC's Fiscal Year 2012 [budget analysis](#) and [budget chart](#).



Use NSC's New Interactive Federal Funding Tool to Make the Case for Skills!

NSC has launched an [online interactive federal funding tool](#) that graphically captures trends in current and historical federal funding for key job training and workforce education programs. Take a tour of this interactive tool today. Share links or download companion PDFs to use in your efforts to communicate the need to better align the nation's education investments with labor market demands and the needs of America's workforce.



NSC Releases 2011 Updates to Training Policy in Brief

[Training Policy in Brief](#)—NSC's signature reference tool for understanding the “nuts and bolts” of a range of federal education and training programs—has been updated! To date, NSC has released updated issue briefs on the Workforce Investment Act, Trade Adjustment Assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and Pell Grants, including specific recommendations for making these programs more efficient and effective. [Download](#) your copy today and stay tuned for additional updates to follow.



Seen and Heard This Week: NSC Staff Talk Skills at CAP, ACTE Events

On March 8, NSC Executive Director Andy Van Kleunen and Jobs for the Future Vice President Ray Uhalde will discuss Advancing a Workforce Development Agenda as part of a panel presentation at the Center for American Progress' [Talking Training: A Conversation About the Present and Future of Workforce Development](#). The event will begin at 10:00 am ET and can be [streamed live](#). NSC Federal Policy Director Rachel Gragg will present at the [Association for Career and Technical Education](#) (ACTE) National Policy Seminar in Washington, DC, March 7-9. [Today's Students = Tomorrow's Prepared Workforce](#) will focus on providing the tools needed to effectively inform federal legislators about the value and importance of career and technical education, especially in light of unprecedented budget cuts.

Duncan, Solis Visit Sector Partnership, Call for New Investments at Community College Summit

On February 28, Labor Secretary Hilda Solis and Education Secretary Arne Duncan visited [1199c Training and Upgrading Fund](#) in Philadelphia to observe their model for combining adult education and technical training for jobs identified by their Healthcare Industry Partnership, a model regularly cited by NSC in its sector partnership advocacy. Fund Executive Director and NSC



Leadership Council member Cheryl Feldman, National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees President Henry Nicholas, and Pamela Shadzick of Temple University Health System were among the hosts for the Secretaries, who also met with several classes of adult students.

Following the site visit, the Secretaries proceeded to the Community College of Philadelphia for the first of four regional Community College Summits to call attention to the Administration's new investments in community colleges as one means to help more U.S. workers gain skills that will lead to employment. [View](#) pictures, [read](#) media coverage, or [watch](#) clips of the event.

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Career Pathways Proposal Moves Forward in Iowa  
Community college and workforce stakeholders in Iowa have helped advance a contextualized learning and tuition assistance proposal in the current session of the Iowa General Assembly. With 24 co-sponsors, Senate Bill 202—[Pathways for Academic Career and Employment Act](#)—would provide grants to community colleges to establish bridge programs and supportive services in consultation with partners from economic, workforce development, and community-based organizations. This legislation would also establish a need-based tuition assistance program for students enrolled in continuing education certificate training programs in high-demand fields.

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#### Partner Resources

[Register](#) for the [Transportation Learning Center](#) Conference—*Making Connections 2011*—on March 17. This day-long event in the Washington, DC area is intended for public transportation leaders, trainers, professionals and policymakers to exchange ideas and learn about best practices and new developments in public transportation workforce development.

[National Employment Law Project](#) has created two new videos to help promote best practices in serving dislocated workers. The [first](#) documents the closing of Silgan Plastics in Port Clinton, Ohio and the decision to create an on-site transition center there, while the [second](#) highlights several of NELP's suggested best practices used at the Navistar plant closing in Indianapolis, Indiana.

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