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Report: More jobs in Mass. require 'middle skills'

By Associated Press

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It's not necessarily highly-skilled workers that Massachusetts will need the most in the coming years, but those with so-called "middle skills."

That's the conclusion of a report released today by the National Skills Coalition, which advocates for worker training.

The report projects that by 2016, Massachusetts will have nearly 400,000 job openings that require more than a high school diploma, but less than a four-year college degree. The report says "middle-skill" jobs will account for 38 percent of all openings.

Ranging from licensed practical nurses to computer support specialists, the jobs have median annual incomes of about \$50,000 to \$55,000.

The report says the state faces challenges in meeting the demand for middle-skilled workers, with only 32 percent of current

employees having the credentials.

Online: National Skills Coalition, www.nationalskillscoalition.org

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