

PhDs Need Not Apply: Middle-Skill Jobs In Demand

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Massachusetts may be known for its production of some of the most highly educated workers in the world, but what it really needs is people with a moderate amount of college education.

That's according to a new study by the National Skills Coalition, which argues that jobs for people with more than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree will make up 38 percent of openings between 2006 and 2016.

These "middle-skill" jobs make up 45 percent of the labor market, but only 32 percent of Massachusetts workers are qualified for them, the coalition said.

Among the industries with a growing need for middle-skill workers are health care, information technology and biomanufacturing.

The coalition conducted the study in partnership with the Massachusetts workforce development initiative SkillWorks and the recruitment firm The Workforce Solutions Group.