Congress should invest in foundational skills

The U.S. has a middle-skill gap

Though the economy is improving, employers still struggle to find skilled workers to fill their open positions, particularly for middle-skill jobs requiring more than a high school diploma but not a four-year degree.


36 million lack the foundational skills to succeed in middle-skill training, jobs

36 million US adults — including 24 million currently in the workforce — lack the foundational literacy and numeracy skills to enter middle-skill training and obtain well-paying jobs. This contributes to income inequality and hurts business productivity. But we’re only serving a fraction of the need in federally-funded adult education programs.


We’re falling behind our competition

A recent study showed the US tied for 8th out of 13 Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries in literacy and 11th out of 13 in math. We can’t afford to fall further behind — Congress must prioritize foundational skills now.


Please support greater, more effective investments in foundational skills.

nationalskillscoalition.org