Illinois’ Forgotten Middle

Middle-skill jobs, which require education beyond high school but not a four-year degree, make up the largest part of America’s and Illinois’ labor market. Key industries in Illinois are unable to find enough sufficiently trained workers to fill these jobs.

Demand for Middle-Skill Jobs is Strong
Fifty-four percent of all jobs in 2012 were middle-skill.

Demand for Middle-Skill Jobs Will Remain Strong
Between 2010-2020, 48 percent of job openings will be middle-skill.

A Middle-Skill Gap
Middle-skill jobs account for 54 percent of Illinois’ labor market, but only 43 percent of the state’s workers are trained to the middle-skill level.