

The Skills Gap

- 12 million U.S. workers are without jobs, yet 52% of companies report difficulty filling open positions
- 40% of current workforce is expected to turnover within the next five years; but 58% of employers report that graduates are not adequately prepared for work
- 7,000 students drop out of high school every day
- 6.5 million young adults are not in school and not working
- 53% of recent college grads are either unemployed or underemployed

The Changing Workplace – By 2018

- Need 22 million new workers with college degrees – projected to fall short by at least 3 million workers with associate degrees or better
- Need at least 4.7 million new workers with postsecondary certificates
- 90% of the fastest-growing jobs will require an education beyond high school
- 31% of small business owners and 41% of manufacturers can't fill positions
- New and enhanced skill requirements and an increased reliance on technology

Industry Needs Employees With

- Critical thinking skills
- Drive for lifelong learning
- Multi-cultural mindset
- Systems thinking / problem solving
- Ability to communicate

New Workplace Norms

- Increased productivity brought about by technology
- Workplace will require advanced technical skills-work with advanced computer systems
- Availability of skilled workers drives decisions on business locations
- Collaboration between business, education, community groups, and policy impact decisions
- Ability to express one's self

Education Challenges

- Teacher shortages
- Common Core standards
- Less time for CTE
- Disconnect between education and work
- Academic achievement focus
- College for all message and focus
- Rigid and decreased Funding