Voters want a commitment to skills

Our country is in desperate need of skilled workers — people trained for jobs in growing industries like medical technology, IT and software, and advanced manufacturing — as well as tradespeople like plumbers and electricians. These jobs are the backbone of America's economy, and filling them is critical to America's success in the 21st century. But there aren't enough people with the skills, training, and education to fill them. Many people want to learn an in-demand skill, but they can't afford the training they need to step into a better career. And too often, our policymakers invest in and help people who want to go to college, but there's much less help available for people who want to learn a skill or a trade – even though our economy depends on them!

VOTERS SUPPORT SKILLS TRAINING

- 59% of voters say they’re more likely to support a candidate who supports increasing government funding for skills training.
- 93% of likely 2020 voters support increasing investment in skills training.
- 94% of Democrats support increasing investment in skills training.
- 92% of Republicans support increasing investment in skills training.
- 93% of Independents support increasing investment in skills training.

BUSINESSES SUPPORT SKILLS TRAINING

- 79% of small and medium businesses leaders want to see more government funding for skills training.
- 76% of business leaders say greater investment in skills training would help their business — making it nearly as helpful as reducing regulations (82%) and cutting taxes (87%).
- 62% of business leaders say it is difficult for them to find skilled workers.
- Of those looking to hire 20 or more workers this year, 80% say it’s difficult for them to find skilled workers.