

**To:** All declared candidates for 2020 presidential election

**From:** National Skills Coalition

**Re:** Poll finds overwhelming support for skills training among Iowa voters



POWERED BY NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

## Likely 2020 Voters in Iowa: Key findings

- **Iowa voters overwhelmingly support increasing investment in skills training.** More than nine-out-of-ten voters (92%) support increasing investment in skills and technical training, with nearly half of voters (47%) *strongly* supporting more investment.
- **Increasing investment in skills training was the most popular of eight economic proposals tested.** At 92% support, increasing investment in skills training was more popular than other popular economic policy proposals.

Support for Economic Policy Proposals				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
<b>Increasing investment in skills and technical training</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>93%</b>
Cutting taxes for the middle class	89%	88%	88%	91%
<b>Providing skills and technical training to anyone who wants it</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>82%</b>
Providing a job for any American who wants one	85%	89%	86%	82%
Providing Medicare to all Americans	70%	91%	73%	49%
Providing free tuition for community colleges for anyone who wants it	63%	85%	64%	44%
Raising the national minimum wage to \$15 an hour	58%	76%	61%	41%
Providing free tuition for four-year public colleges for anyone who wants it	53%	72%	53%	35%

- **Iowa voter support remains high even when investment is framed as “government funding.”** Noting that increased funding for skills training would come from the government does little to dampen support, with 81% of voters continuing to back it. This sentiment extends across party lines, with 87% of Democrats, 78% of Independents and 77% of Republicans in support.

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- **Supporting more investment in skills training helps candidates of both parties.** By more than a 50-point margin (58% more likely / 6% less likely), Iowa voters say they are more likely to support a candidate who supports increasing government funding for skills training.
- **There is strong, bipartisan support for a range of proposals related to skills training.**

Support for Skills Training Proposals				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Create closer links between community colleges and businesses to help community colleges train people for the jobs businesses are hiring for	<b>95%</b>	96%	90%	96%
Make it easier for people who receive government assistance like welfare or food stamps to get skills training, so they can find a family supporting job	<b>88%</b>	93%	84%	83%
Make federal financial aid available to anyone seeking skills training, not just those seeking college degrees	<b>87%</b>	93%	76%	86%
Help laid off workers find new jobs by providing skills retraining at no cost to any worker who loses their job due to automation	<b>87%</b>	94%	86%	81%
Provide tax incentives to employers who invest in skills training for their workers	<b>87%</b>	89%	75%	89%
Invest in skills training programs at the same level that we invest in college	<b>86%</b>	89%	82%	84%
Increase government funding in technical education and apprenticeships for high school students and young adults	<b>86%</b>	93%	87%	79%
Increase government funding for support services to help people finish skills training programs, such as for career counseling, childcare and transportation assistance	<b>82%</b>	91%	81%	72%
Increase government funding for child care to help parents participate in and finish skills training	<b>81%</b>	91%	72%	76%

*On behalf of National Skills Coalition, ALG Research conducted a statewide online survey in Iowa of 507 likely 2020 general election voters, January 30 – February 3, 2019.*