

To: All declared candidates for 2020 presidential election

From: National Skills Coalition

Re: Poll finds overwhelming support for skills training among Michigan voters



POWERED BY NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Likely 2020 Voters in Michigan: Key Findings

- **Michigan voters overwhelmingly support increasing investment in skills training.** Nine-out-of-ten voters (90%) support increasing investment in skills and technical training, with a majority of voters (56%) *strongly* supporting more investment.
- **Increasing investment in skills training was the most popular of eight economic proposals tested.** At 90% support, increasing investment in skills training was more popular than other popular economic policy proposals.

Support for Economic Policy Proposals				
	All	Dem	Ind	Rep
Increasing investment in skills and technical training	90%	96%	93%	81%
Providing skills and technical training to anyone who wants it	88%	98%	83%	77%
Providing a job for any American who wants one	85%	94%	75%	78%
Cutting taxes for the middle class	85%	84%	75%	90%
Providing free tuition for community colleges for anyone who wants it	71%	90%	73%	48%
Providing Medicare to all Americans	69%	87%	75%	45%
Raising the national minimum wage to \$15 an hour	63%	83%	55%	41%
Providing free tuition for four-year public colleges for anyone who wants it	61%	81%	54%	41%

- **Michigan 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 85% of voters continuing to back it. This sentiment extends across party lines, with 94% of Democrats, 84% of Independents and 74% of Republicans in support.
- **African American voters in Michigan are especially supportive.** Ninety four percent of African American voters in Michigan support more government funding for skills training, but support is very high among white voters (83%).

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- **Supporting more investment in skills training helps candidates of both parties.** By almost a 50-point margin (58% more likely / 9% less likely), Michigan 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	94%	98%	94%	90%
Increase government funding in technical education and apprenticeships for high school students and young adults	90%	97%	90%	83%
Help laid off workers find new jobs by providing skills retraining at no cost to any worker who loses their job due to automation	90%	97%	88%	83%
Make federal financial aid available to anyone seeking skills training, not just those seeking college degrees	89%	96%	88%	81%
Provide tax incentives to employers who invest in skills training for their workers	89%	94%	81%	84%
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	88%	93%	80%	86%
Invest in skills training programs at the same level that we invest in college	87%	94%	83%	81%
Increase government funding for support services to help people finish skills training programs, such as for career counseling, childcare and transportation assistance	86%	96%	90%	75%
Increase government funding for child care to help parents participate in and finish skills training	81%	97%	82%	62%

On behalf of National Skills Coalition, ALG Research conducted a statewide online survey in Michigan of 400 likely 2020 general election voters, January 30 – February 3, 2019.