

WIOA Vitality and Investments

Persistent workforce challenges and skilled labor shortages underscore the critical need for sustained support and amplified investments in the **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)**. NCATC, comprising leading institutions at the forefront of Career Technical Education (CTE) and workforce development, recognizes the pivotal role WIOA plays in shaping the future of America's workforce. Through its emphasis on industry-driven training, career pathways, and innovative partnerships, WIOA embodies the collaborative spirit and forward-thinking ethos championed by NCATC.

NCATC Supports WIOA Investments

Ensuring the success of WIOA aligns seamlessly with NCATC's strategic priorities, which revolve around cultivating a skilled, adaptable, and inclusive workforce equipped to thrive in a dynamic global landscape. By championing initiatives that promote workforce training, career advancement, and equitable access to educational and employment opportunities, NCATC underscores the imperative of investing in human capital as the linchpin of sustainable economic growth and social advancement.

NCATC encourages policymakers to strengthen and increase funding for WIOA and ensure states are able to use funds to:

- Support individuals seeking to enhance their skills and secure employment;
- Provide access to education, training, and job placement services tailored to a broad range of needs; and
- Equip individuals with the skills and resources necessary to pursue career pathways.

How Can We Strengthen WIOA?

- *Advocate:* Community college and local workforce leaders can actively engage with local congressional representatives and advocate for the continued authorization and increase in funding necessary to maintain a strong workforce investment.
- *Partner:* Local workforce leaders should collaborate with community stakeholders, employers, industry associations, and agencies to build coalitions of support for WIOA.
- *Share:* Community colleges and training providers should showcase programs and outcomes supported by WIOA investments. Stories, data, and testimonials are effective forms of evidence in helping congressional leaders recognize the positive impacts of WIOA funding.