

MAKE DATA WORK FOR OUR WORKFORCE

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As business leaders, we understand the power of data. Every day, we rely on all types of information to guide our decisions. A successful company would never overhaul a product or launch a new service without reliable information to support those choices. We recommend applying the same type of data-driven decision-making to the challenge of building our nation's skilled workforce.

Right now, there are significant gaps in our data about workers, education and training, and the economy. This missing information makes it difficult to determine whether education programs are giving the American people the skills they need for today's in-demand jobs.

Congress Should:

Measure outcomes to ensure program quality. Investments in postsecondary education often pay off for students and businesses, but we lack detailed data on individual programs to understand what's working – and what's not. Congress should adopt employment, earnings, and credential attainment metrics so we can measure returns on investment and support program improvements.

Provide information to help customers make informed decisions. College is a huge investment, and students need reliable information to choose a program that helps them meet their goals. Congress should support a policy that facilitates the availability of user-friendly information about college costs, graduation rates, and post-college employment.

Protect privacy and keep the data secure. Trustworthy, transparent, data is a cornerstone of good policymaking and individual decision-making, but it is equally imperative that privacy rights are protected. Congress should support a data policy that includes up-to-date security standards and penalties for illegally obtaining information, prohibitions on collection of sensitive information, and strong limitations on disclosing any information about individuals.

Act Now: **Support the College Transparency Act** to make it easier for students, policymakers, and businesses to determine what programs are helping students to earn credentials and get good jobs.



Business Leaders United
for Workforce Partnerships