

NEW JERSEY

EMPLOYER COALITION FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Preparing tomorrow's workforce.



Working Together to Ensure New Jersey's Future Economic Prosperity

WHO WE ARE

The **NJ Employer Coalition for Technical Education** is a partnership of over 100 business, education, labor and government leaders committed to meeting the skilled labor challenges of today's global economy.

Spearheaded by the New Jersey Business & Industry Association and New Jersey Council of County Vocational Technical Schools, the coalition's goals are to expand career opportunities, promote technical education, shrink the skills gap and ensure future economic prosperity.

WHY?

As New Jersey's economy grows, employers face a shortage of job applicants with the technical skills needed to fill available positions.

New Jersey needs to increase its focus on career and technical education programs that prepare students for college and careers, including many well-paying opportunities that can be launched with industry credentials or associate's degrees.

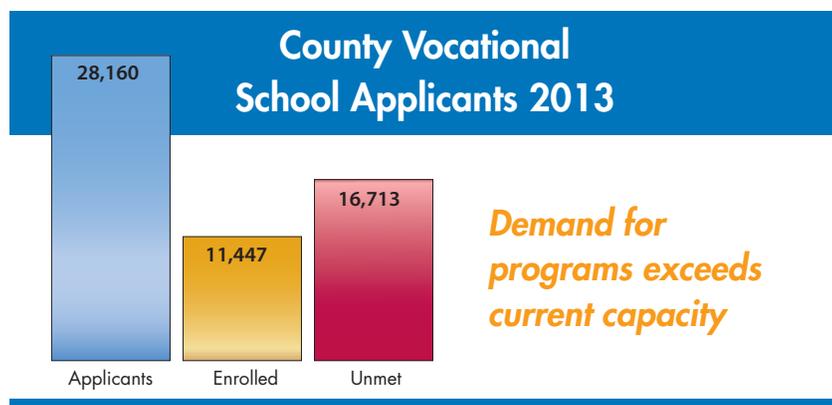
New Jersey's county vocational-technical schools provide career-focused education for more than 32,000 high school students, integrating rigorous academics with technical training in a wide variety of fields. Students also develop valuable work-readiness skills, such as critical thinking, communication, and teamwork.

But these career-focused high schools must be expanded to meet growing demand. In 2013, almost 17,000 applicants were turned away because there was insufficient capacity.

Join our coalition and help increase educational opportunities for students and ensure a well-prepared workforce for New Jersey's employers.

Coalition Goals

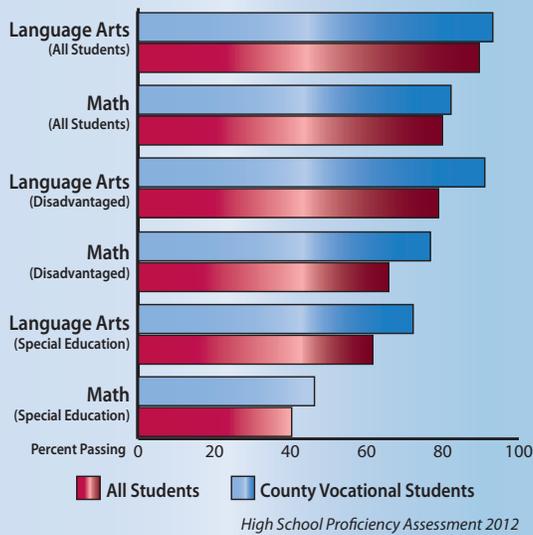
- Promote quality career and technical education opportunities that prepare students for careers as well as college.
- Engage employers with county vocational-technical schools and students. The key to successful training programs is involvement from real-world local employers.
- Expand county vocational-technical schools and programs to prepare more career-focused, job-ready New Jerseyans.



Coalition Recommendations

1. The State and local communities should continue to support county vocational-technical school CTE programs.
2. The business community should partner with county vocational-technical schools to identify and address critical workforce needs.
3. State policy should support multiple pathways to success rather than a one-size-fits-all college preparatory mindset.
4. The State and local counties should support the expansion of county vocational-technical schools facilities with a shared investment in school construction.
5. New Jersey should support joint ventures between county vocational-technical schools and community colleges that address employer needs in key industry sectors and create career pathway opportunities for out-of-school youth and adults.

Students Outperform the General High School Population



PSE&G supports vocational education because the technical and career focused curricula, hands on skills and training, and core mathematics instruction, prepare a highly skilled and technical workforce within NJ.

-Sally Nadler, PSE&G

Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's Jobs

RESEARCH SAYS...

By 2020, 65% of jobs will require education and training beyond high school, but almost half of them will not require a four-year degree.
Georgetown University Center for Education and the Workforce, June 2013

Fifty percent of the jobs in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) do not require a bachelor's degree.
Brookings Institute, June 2013

From mid-adolescence onward, most young people learn best in structured programs that combine work and learning, in which the link between what they are studying and its relevance to their lives and career goals is clearly explained.
Harvard University Graduate School of Education, February 2011

21st Century Vocational Schools

New Jersey's county vocational-technical schools meet the challenges of today's global economy. They:

- Offer more than 540 employer-driven career programs that include industry-recognized credentials and even college credit.
- Provide high level academics and the sophisticated, technical knowledge needed in a wide variety of fields, including STEM, health sciences, digital media, hospitality, automotive and construction technologies, and manufacturing.
- Produce graduates with critical work-readiness skills like problem-solving, critical thinking, communication, and teamwork.
- Engage students and boost achievement, enabling students to out-perform statewide averages on the High School Proficiency Assessment and the SAT.

JOIN US

Sign up now and take an active role in preparing tomorrow's workforce. Membership is free. We need your voice in support of county vocational-technical schools and your involvement in enhancing and expanding these employer-driven programs.

Sign up:
www.careertechnj.org/employer-coalition-sign-up/

More Info:
www.careertechnj.org/employer-coalition/

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