



# Lack of access to skills training hurts Illinois' workers and businesses

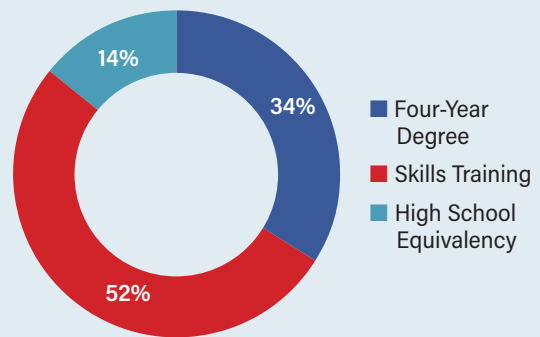
Every day, in communities across our nation, workers seek out opportunities to ensure their families can thrive. At the same time, businesses are anxious to hire skilled workers—people trained for jobs in growing industries like healthcare, medical technology, IT and software, and advanced manufacturing—as well as tradespeople like plumbers and electricians.

These jobs\*, which require education and training that falls between a high school diploma and a four-year degree, are the **backbone of the American economy** and they depend on a skilled workforce ready to fill them.

Skills training is the key to filling in-demand jobs—yet without access to skills training and education, workers are locked out of opportunities to succeed.

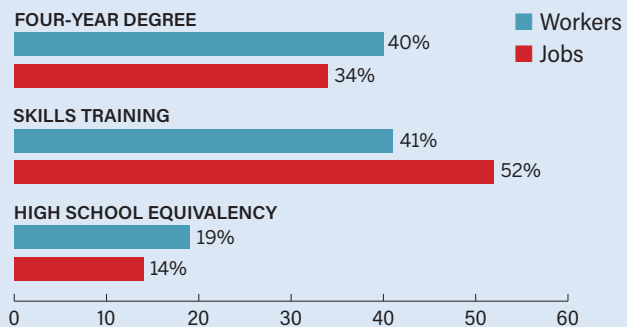
A majority of jobs (52%) require skills training beyond high school, but not a four-year degree.

ILLINOIS' JOBS BY EDUCATION REQUIREMENT, 2018



But too few workers can access the skills training and education needed to fill in-demand jobs.

ILLINOIS' JOBS AND WORKERS BY EDUCATION LEVEL, 2018



**America's workforce is its premier economic asset. Unlocking workers' access to skills training prioritizes what workers and businesses need to fill in-demand jobs in a 21st century economy.**

\*Sometimes called "middle skill jobs"

