

# KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING

## YOUR YEAR-ROUND ADVOCACY GUIDE



You made your voice heard at **Skills Summit 2026** – now keep it going! Here are simple ways to stay engaged, share your story, and advance workforce and skills policies all year long.

### STAY CONNECTED

#### Join The Network

Sign up for NSC updates and action alerts to stay ahead of key policy moments.

#### Stay Visible

Share updates on your work on social media – use #NSCSkillsSummit to share what you learned at the event and tag NSC to keep the conversation going.

#### Learn And Share

Join NSC webinars, working groups, and network calls to swap ideas and success stories.

[> Sign up for our email list](#)



### KEEP IN TOUCH WITH POLICYMAKERS

#### Follow Up

Send a quick thank you to your members of Congress or their staff – and remind them why skills matter in your community.

#### Show Them Skills In Action

Host a site visit to your training program, workforce board, or local business.

#### Use NSC Tools

Leverage briefs, data, and talking points to strengthen your message.

[> Download NSC resources](#)



### LIFT UP STORIES THAT MATTER

#### Center Local Voices

Highlight the learners, workers, and businesses benefiting from skills investments – and those that are excluded from these opportunities. Invite them to join our Voices for Skills network for advocacy opportunities.

#### Tell Your Story

Pitch op-eds, share posts, or speak at community events – connect local impact to national policy.

#### Stay In Touch

Let NSC know when your organization has new stories, data, or partnerships to highlight.

[> Join Voices for Skills](#)



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Stay ahead of what's happening in workforce policy – and know exactly when your advocacy can have the biggest impact. This calendar highlights major milestones, funding cycles, and opportunities to engage with NSC campaigns throughout 2026. Use it to **plan your outreach** to policymakers and partners, **stay ready** for key federal and state advocacy moments, and **coordinate your message** with NSC's national efforts. Together, we can keep workforce issues on the agenda all year long:

JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2026 - FY27 BUDGET PROCESS	MARCH - MAY 2026
<b>Start of 119th Congress, Second Session</b> – Map out your advocacy goals for the year. Gather the data, stories, and evidence you'll need to make a strong case to policymakers.	<b>Presidential Budget Development</b> – A critical moment to advocate for strong workforce funding. Flag programs at risk and urge your members of Congress to protect and strengthen key investments.	<b>Appropriations Discussions and Community Project Submissions</b> – Connect with your members of Congress as they shape FY27 funding. Call on them to protect investments in people and employers, and support community project requests that strengthen your local workforce.
<b>EXPECTED JUNE 2026</b>		<b>JULY 2026</b>
<b>House/Senate Appropriation Markup for Labor HHS Funding</b> – Monitor spending proposals closely. Identify any cuts or policy changes that may affect programs, partnerships, or local workforce ecosystems – and share impacts with NSC's networks and policymakers.		<b>Congressional Recess – Home Visits</b> – Schedule site visits for members of Congress and host local events. Bring members of Congress to the ground so they can learn how good workforce policy choices can help people access skills training, meet their basic needs, and find pathways to good jobs.  <b>Program Year Starts for Workforce Pell Grants</b> – Report back to Department of Education on the implementation process and elevate any challenges.
<b>OCTOBER 2026</b>		<b>NOVEMBER 2026</b>
<b>Election Year Recess</b> – Prepare educational materials for future leaders. Share how workforce policies support workers, businesses, and local economies.		<b>Midterm and Special Elections</b> – Educate, inform, and bring awareness of workforce wins and challenges with future leaders.

Don't forget to join NSC's network calls and policy briefings in the following months, subscribe to our e-mail list to get reminders: **April, June, August, October, and December**

## YOUR VOICE DRIVES CHANGE.

From implementing **Workforce Pell** to **protecting the people and programs that drive our economy forward**, your advocacy makes progress possible. Keep showing up and speaking out.

#NSCSkillsSummit

