



EDUCATION

What We Believe: A strong education system is crucial to preparing people for good jobs and bright futures and sustaining a 21st century workforce that can compete in the global economy. The Chamber is focused on fixing shortcomings in our education system so that students emerge from our public education system prepared for college or a career; higher education is more accessible and affordable; employers can find workers with the right skills and qualifications; and our workforce will attract investment, drive growth, and spur innovation.

Priorities for 2018



We need an all-of-the-above approach to address the dual challenge of people without jobs, and jobs without people—including bold education reforms.



- Support implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act, with an emphasis on encouraging the creation of state accountability systems focused on career readiness, high academic standards, rigorous coursework, end-of-year assessments aligned to standards, and closing the achievement gap.
- Advance efforts at the federal and state levels that provide more educational options for parents and students.
- Improve career readiness by leveraging the business community to address challenges involved in managing employer engagement, scaling work-based learning, identifying industry-recognized credentials, securing employer endorsements, and evaluating performance.
- Encourage better alignment between high school graduation requirements, state academic achievement standards, and postsecondary entrance requirements.
- Back efforts to generate more U.S. graduates with a credential in a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) field.
- Work to ensure that institutions of higher education (traditional and nontraditional) are held accountable for their performance—both academically and financially—and that they provide transparency to empower students, parents, employers, and policymakers to make informed decisions.
- Advocate for improving financial aid programs and systems, including private sector innovations in higher education finance, that work to improve college access and affordability while incentivizing outcomes.
- Promote improvements in the quality of higher education data.
- Advocate for eliminating regulations that diminish choice of providers and deter innovation.



U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE