



# The Rhode Island Workforce Alliance

## Advocating for a skilled, productive and prosperous workforce

The Rhode Island Workforce Alliance is a partnership among business, labor, philanthropic, adult education and upward mobility leaders dedicated to improving workforce development services for low-skilled Rhode Islanders to improve their earning potential and to meet employer needs for a skilled workforce. The Alliance advocates for local, state and federal investments and policies that help RI workers and job seekers, especially those who are low-income or low-skilled, advance in the workforce.

**The Rhode Island Workforce Alliance has adopted the Skills2Compete vision:** Every Rhode Island worker should have access to the equivalent of at least two years of education or training past high school—leading to a vocational credential, industry certification, or one’s first two years of college—to be pursued at whatever point and pace makes sense for individual workers and industries. Every person must also have the opportunity to obtain the basic skills needed to pursue such education.

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### We seek a statewide commitment to policies that guarantee access to skills so that:

- Adults who are working, but living in poverty can access jobs that pay supporting wages.
- Laid off and displaced workers can find good jobs in a new economy.
- Rhode Island employers in industries that we all rely on can find enough skilled workers to fill current openings.
- Our state can have the workforce needed to grow new, innovative industries.

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### The Rhode Island Workforce Alliance:

- Provides research, data and analysis that help stakeholders understand the impact of state and federal policies and effectively advocate for change.
- Helps develop and support initiatives to build a skilled workforce through better state and federal policies and investments.
- Facilitates the Adult Educator and Learner Consortium, which ensures there is a strong voice advocating for increased funding, improved public policies and a better infrastructure for the adult education system in Rhode Island.
- Collaborates with Skills2Compete, a campaign of The Workforce Alliance, a national organization that advocates for a skilled workforce.

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**The Rhode Island Workforce Alliance is facilitated by The Poverty Institute.**

To learn more about the Alliance, contact Judy Jones, 401-847-0307 or [judykjones@cox.net](mailto:judykjones@cox.net)