

LABOR/EMPLOYMENT

Policy Issues Cluster	Policy Priorities
Job Training and Work Preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public education must prepare all students for college, but also support job entry-level preparation in occupational trade skills. 2. Increase and ensure equity in higher education Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Programs. 3. Adult learning and job training must be available in public secondary schools and community colleges. 4. Increase opportunities for job training collaborative partnerships among educational institutions, public agencies, and for-profit and non-profit organizations. 5. Incorporate and increase mentorships and apprenticeships opportunities in job training collaborative partnerships. 6. Increase funding support to scale-up model job training programs with demonstrated results in full employment, living wages and economic mobility opportunities, and meet industry and employer needs. 7. Increase funding, equity and coordination between the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Workforce Investment Act (WIA) in career pathway, training and job acquisition. 8. Incorporate money management and asset-building education in adult education and job training programs. 9. Safety-net program eligibility must support and does not discourage adult education and job training opportunities.
Worker Protections	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety must be strengthened and maintained in occupations and related industry sectors determined lacking in or requiring increased safety regulations. 2. Immigrants must be protected from employment-related abuses inclusive of safety, wage discrimination and theft, and retaliatory conduct from employers. 3. Workers must be protected in their right to determine unionization. 4. Right to Work Laws must not create barriers or prohibit resolution of worker grievances or unionization. 5. Workers Compensation must be equitable and fair in employee protections, and not diminish safety, access to care for work-related injury, or loss in wages.
Work Attachment and Security	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equitable and balanced approaches in policies that protect workers, and lend support to both small and big businesses in providing employment security demonstrated by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Living Wage – Equal Pay/Equal Work – Full Benefits Work Hours b. Fair Job Scheduling - Health and Life Insurance – Retirement Benefits c. Workplace Safety and Workers Compensation d. Annual, Sick and Emergency Leave e. Portable Benefits f. Child Care
Job Creation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State and local government job creation initiatives must be transparent and involve educational institutions, public agencies, for-profit and non-profit organizations, and advocate coalitions. 2. Equitable and balanced approaches in policies to increase middle and high paying jobs, and increase increasing training and wages for poor and low-income employees. 3. Increase support for small businesses (new entrepreneurship) and existing ones through innovative subsidy, grant, and loan demonstration initiatives. 4. Job creation-supported initiative must include accountability measures for Return on Investment (ROI). 5. Equity and balance in ensuring employment security criteria (e.g., living wage, benefits, safety, etc.) in all public support job creation initiatives.