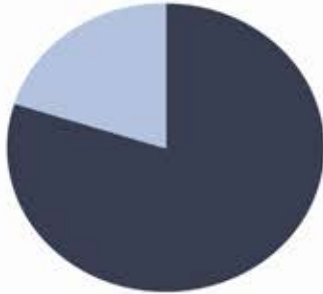


# The Gateway to Careers Act

## The Challenge

With low unemployment rates in states across the country, innovative businesses are struggling to hire the skilled workers they need to continue to grow and thrive. At the same time, as our economy changes rapidly, individuals may not have the skills and supports they need to enter – and remain – in the workforce.



**80% of jobs in the U.S. require some type of postsecondary education or training**

## A Solution

The Gateway to Careers Act seeks to expand our nation's workforce by supporting career pathways strategies -- combining work, education, and support services to help individuals earn industry-recognized credentials.

This bill would provide grants to support partnerships between community or technical colleges and workforce development partners (i.e. state workforce development boards, industry associations, and community-based organizations). These partnerships would support individuals who are unemployed or underemployed by removing barriers that prevent them from completing a degree or credential program and succeeding in the workforce.

## The Gateway to Careers Act Will:

- *Strengthen job training* by supporting workforce programs at community and technical colleges, including accelerated learning options that allow people to earn credits and industry-recognized credentials more quickly.
- *Remove barriers* that prevent too many people from entering the workforce by connecting people to the services they need to help them succeed, including:
  - **Housing**
  - **Mental health and substance use disorder treatment**
  - **Assistance in obtaining health insurance coverage**
  - **Career counseling**
  - **Childcare**
  - **Transportation**
  - **Guidance in accessing SNAP**
- Together, these opportunities will *help workers improve their ability to compete for good jobs in the 21st century economy, while providing innovative businesses with the workforce they need to thrive.*