

***Community College to Career Fund Act***  
***Summary***  
**Senator Al Franken**

Millions of jobs around the country are currently unfilled because employers can't find qualified applicants. This is known as the "skills gap". By 2018, 63% of the more than 46 million jobs that will need to be filled in the U.S will require at least some postsecondary education.<sup>1</sup> What's more, as the economy continues to evolve, so will the jobs. Workers will have to retrofit their current skills, acquire and apply interdisciplinary knowledge and skills, or be able to engage in non-routine tasks.

**The Community College to Career Fund Act.** The Community College to Career Fund established by this new legislation will help create and expand partnerships between two-year community and technical colleges and employers to train millions of Americans for jobs in high-demand industries, such as health care, advanced manufacturing, clean energy, and information technology.

**About the Act:**

- Creates a 3-year competitive grant program administered by the Department of Labor.
- Partnerships between employers or industry groups and two-year educational programs at community, technical, 4-year, or tribal non-profit colleges would be eligible to create programs to apply for grants.
- The public-private partnership would fund job training and job training-related programs, such as registered apprenticeships, on-the-job training opportunities, and paid internships for low-income students that allow them to simultaneously earn credit for learning in an in-demand, high-skill field and gain on-the-job experience with employers.
- The bill would also encourage partnerships that provide direct hiring opportunities to individuals with barriers to employment, and veterans and their families.

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<sup>1</sup> According to a report by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce <https://cew.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/HelpWanted.ExecutiveSummary.pdf>