



NYSAC
NEW YORK STATE
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

2017

Budget Priority

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

PROBLEM

New York's workforce development system engages nearly a dozen agencies that receive funding from the federal and state level. It operates in ten economic development regions, 33 designated workforce investment areas, and 62 counties. Since 2011, NYS has added over 500,000 private sector jobs, while the growth in private sector jobs is positive many jobs remain unfilled because support and funding for workforce development programs has not followed suit. With the development of these private sector jobs, the jobseekers who do not have strong education, training or professional networks are not able to take advantage of these new opportunities. In addition, the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals performed a study that analyzed spending on a broad range of workforce services including adult education, job training, and employment programs and discovered that spending has fallen by five percent since 2011.

2017 EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL

The Governor's Budget does not address this issue.

COUNTY SOLUTION

NYSAC urges state lawmakers to make a strong commitment to helping New York's workers and business add the skills they need with a fully defined statewide workforce strategy and robust financial support. To effectively serve employers and jobseekers, the system must:

- Connect workforce investments to the initiatives and priorities of statewide, regional, and local economic development needs
- Focus policy and emphasis on a full pipeline of workers through community colleges, adult basic education and worker training,
- Aggressively pursue a wide array of funding sources including targeted state resources and funding that could be provided through the Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs).

For more information on the county position regarding this issue, visit www.nysac.org/EconomicDevelopment or call 518-465-1473 to speak to Kate Hohman, Program Specialist