

Policy Actions to Support Increased Workforce Skill Levels in Maine

Education policy at the federal and state levels needs to address the range of knowledge and skills needed for all students to be fully ready for college and careers. Policy opportunities include:

Skill Development

Ensure students are prepared for both college and careers through rigorous academic content and opportunities to develop advanced skills like critical thinking, communication, collaboration and the ability to apply content knowledge.

Measurable Results

Develop ways to effectively measure the development of skills and knowledge most desired in the modern workforce.

Accountability

Adopt accountability systems designed around new and more complete measures of student achievement that are rigorous, fair, valid and reliable for all students, hold all students accountable to high standards, and are comparable across all school districts within a state or consortium of states.

Professional Development and Teaching Practice

Adopt performance assessments for teachers that show whether they can demonstrate the skills needed to be successful in the classroom. Support a wide range of professional development coursework, including enabling teachers to collaborate to develop and hone lessons.