



EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce believes in **“A Thriving Region for All”** and a **“Balanced Approach”** to decision-making and that **“Business is a Force for Good.”**

We design and advance opportunities and solutions for a thriving regional economy that is balanced, inclusive and globally competitive.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Education & Workforce Development Council reviews and recommends policy priorities to the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, which advocates to improve the alignment of curricula and opportunities for skill development between businesses and educational institutions from early childhood through adulthood and continuing education.

California is the innovation state, home to emerging industries and entrepreneurs who fuel an economy that is recognized as the fourth largest in the world. To preserve California’s economic competitiveness, the council’s policy priorities include aligning education with industry to address gaps in the workforce, bolstering the current education system, increasing equitable access to academic achievement and work readiness, and protecting the region’s competitiveness to attract and retain talent. These priorities not only improve academic outcomes, they generate homegrown talent prepared to become leaders in a rapidly changing economy.

Align Education to Address Gaps in the Workforce

- Refresh educational curricula to include relevant and in-demand workforce skill sets.
- Incentivize workforce development partnerships between public and private higher education institutions and companies.
- Create Bachelor of Science programs at community colleges to fill workforce gaps.
- Streamline the accreditation process for education programs that address workforce development.
- Support education and workforce policies that allow Dreamers and immigrants to gain greater access to the education system.

Bolster the Current Education System

- Support budget requests for public education and higher education.
- Incentivize careers in teaching and bolster policies to retain existing educators.

Increase Equitable Access to Academic Achievement and Work Readiness

- Invest in affordable, high-quality early education and child care programs.
- Fund programs that increase student enrollment, financial literacy, and digital accessibility.
- Expand wraparound care services for students in need of support.
- Reduce time and burdens for degree completion and transfers.
- Forge pathways for affordable higher education and skills training.



Protect the Region's Competitiveness to Attract and Retain Talent

- Advocate for regional, local, and community solutions that directly impact the workforce such as public transit, housing expansion and community centers.
- Champion policies and measures that incentivize the development of housing, as well as models that reduce the cost of living for working families, people with career changes, justice-involved populations, and students who stepped out of the traditional educational sequence.
- Support student debt relief and reimbursement programs.
- Incentivize employers and social enterprises to launch workforce development programs for people unable to access traditional pathways to education.
- Engage in issues around comprehensive reform for the immigration system.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



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