

## **High Skills, High Wages Highlights**

1. increase high school graduation rates and ensure youth are prepared for further education and/or work.
2. Expand the availability of career pathways that span secondary and postsecondary education and training.
3. Increase postsecondary education and training capacity to close the gap between the need of employers for skilled workers and the supply of Washington residents prepared to meet that need.
4. Increase financial aid and support services for workforce education students to provide greater access to training and boost retention and completion.
5. Increase adult basic skills and English language instruction that is integrated with occupational skills training to assist illiterate populations, immigrants, low-income workers, and unemployed individuals to improve their employment opportunities.
6. Improve coordination between workforce and economic development in key economic clusters through initiatives such as Industry Skill Panels and Centers of Excellence.
7. Meet employee education and training needs through customized training, workplace based learning, flexible methods of education delivery, and new ways of funding employee training.
8. Identify barriers for improving and expanding employment, education, and training services and remove those barriers.