

Senate Education Committee

Tom Cheney, Executive Director

March 28, 2025

Vision & Mission

Vision

A highly educated and financially secure citizenry that supports a prosperous state economy and engaged communities.

Mission

Ensure that every Vermonter can see and is able to pursue a career and education pathway that helps them meet their goals.





State Goal: 70x2025

"It shall be the goal of the State of Vermont that not less than **70 percent of working age Vermonters will hold a credential of value**, as defined by the State Workforce Development Board, **by the year 2025**" – Act 80 of 2019







Badge



Certificate



Certification



Degree



Diploma



License



1icro-Credentia



Act 80 Policy Priorities to Achieve Goal



Promote awareness of career pathways and the value of postsecondary education and training



Expand access to postsecondary education and training to students of all ages



Increase completion of postsecondary education and training programs by ensuring Vermonters have the supports they need to succeed



Maximize partnerships across and within sectors to achieve State workforce development and education goals



Vermonters (ages 25-64) Who Have a Credential

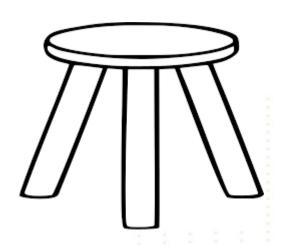


Source: Lumina Foundation 2025 Stronger Nation Report



Workforce Development: A Three Legged Stool Approach

- → Robust career connected education and training options
- → Strong financial aid and support services
- → Inspiration and aspiration





Work

We believe that meaningful **career and education navigation is critical** to reversing the sharp decline in aspirations and bridging socioeconomic gaps for Vermonters.

To that end, Advance Vermont:

- → Ensures that career and education seekers and those who support them have the **information and tools** they need to make informed choices.
- → Elevates the importance of **non-degree education** options in building a strong workforce.







Vermont free hub for career and education exploration and planning



EXPLORE CAREERS



FIND TRAINING AND EDUCATION



GET SUPPORT

Testimonial

"One of the things I really appreciate about this website is how it's laid out with the direct link between this job ... and these are the educational pathways that can get you there, with the links to specific colleges in Vermont that offer programs. That, to me, is the level of connecting the dots that is really, really helpful for someone in my role."

-Current school Counselor



Your Path. Your Future.

Welcome to your free online resource to help you take the next step in your education and career journey.



I want to know more about...















554 Results



Search









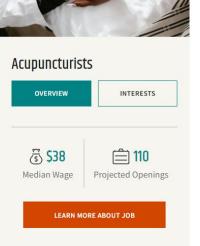
























Carpenters

Construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood and comparable materials, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. May also install cabinets, siding, drywall, and batt or roll insulation. Includes brattice builders who build doors or brattices (ventilation walls or partitions) in underground passageways.



Median Wage



Projected Openings

Skills Required

Are you practical and like hands-on activities and building?

- Active Listening
- Coordination
- Critical Thinking
- Monitoring
- Reading Comprehension
- Speaking



Realistic - for practical people who like handson activities and building





Education & Training Programs in Vermont

<u>Carpentry | Certificate | River Valley Technical Center</u>

Construction 101 | Certification | ReSOURCE

YouthBuild | Certification | ReSOURCE

<u>Trailblazers | Certification | Vermont Works for Women</u>

Building Trades | Certificate | Central Vermont Career Center

SHOW MORE









FIND EDUCATION



Search ...

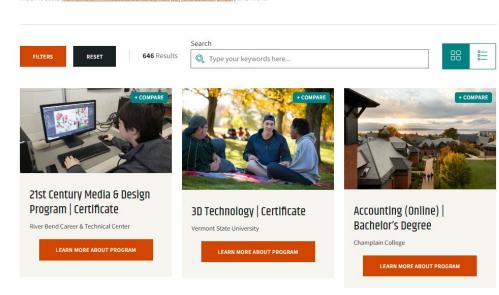
(Translate

Vermont's Education and Training Programs

All of Vermont's most promising careers require education or training beyond high school - from a certificate to a master's degree.

Use the filters to sort by type of credential, which occupations and industries the credential leads to, how much it costs (remember - most students do not pay the sticker price), and more.

650 Credential **Programs**







(Translate





Construction Trades & Management Program | Certificate

Randolph Technical Career Center

EXPLORE CAREERS



This is intended for high school students attending from within the district. Students from outside the district or adults who are not enrolled in high school can contact the center to apply for this program, as

Description

This is intended for high school students attending from within the district. College credits may be available as part of this program. Students from outside the district or adults who are not enrolled in high school can contact the center to apply for this program, as well.

Students participate in both classroom and off-campus projects that include many areas and phases of construction work, including carpentry, masonry, electrical, and plumbing. In addition, students are introduced to local contractors and manufacturers who offer students a range of apprenticeship opportunities. Graduates of the Construction Trades Management program are prepared to enter a two- or four-year college program in construction management or other building-related fields.

This program includes or prepares for the following credential(s): NCCER Level 1: Carpentry Certificate; NCCER Construction Core: Introductory Craft Skills Certificate.

VISIT PROGRAM WEBSITE





















Related Vermont Careers

First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers

Related Industries

Construction



PREVIOUS PROGRAM Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Class B

RETURN TO **Programs**



Health-Careers Program Certification \rightarrow









EXPLORE CAREERS

→ Return to program page

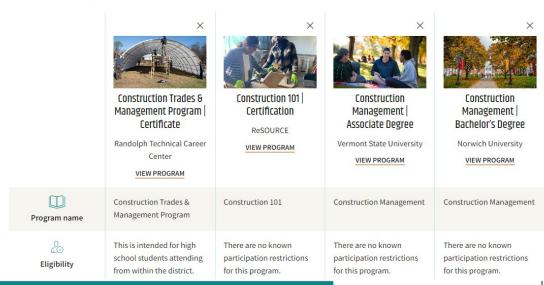
FIND EDUCATION

GET SUPPORT

& Share Link

Search ...

Compare Programs







MyFutureVT: Making an Impact





94%

of all users rate MyFutureVT as 'good' or better.

96%

of all users say MyFutureVT has **content that** is valuable to them.

94%

of all users say MyFutureVT has a good look and feel.

I've used similar platforms that were different in the way things were set up. This is more user friendly and has a more student-friendly feel."

- Zeynep (20s) of Chittenden County

74% of career and education seekers say MyFutureVT is engaging, which encourages them to explore more information — and 89% of navigators report the same.



MyFutureVT: Making an Impact

Leading to positive outcomes

90%

of education & career seekers say **something changed for them** after using MyFutureVT.

93%

of navigators say **MyFutureVT made a difference** for their clients or family members.



I have just heard a lot of negative things about just the workforce in general, especially in Vermont ... this opened me to jobs that are local and nonprofit."

- Lydia (20s) of Washington County

38%

now have a clearer understanding of their career path.

35%

say MyFutureVT helped identify resources to support their decision-making.

22%

say MyFutureVT connected them with people or organizations who can help.

14%

enrolled in an education or training program.

9%

applied for or have been offered a job.



Vermont Credential Transparency Project

Goal: Inventory all postsecondary credentials available in Vermont for the benefit of prospective students, workers, education and training providers, and state leaders.









Badge



Certificate



Certification



Degree



Diploma



License



Micro-Credentia





Individuals

Access to clear and accurate program information empowers students and workers to find the credential that works best for their education and career goals.

Employers



Increased knowledge of the credential options leads to new partnerships with education and training providers, and more informed hiring decisions.



Policymakers

Comprehensive program and credential information helps inform workforce development and education policy decisions.

Education and Training Providers



New marketing opportunities for regional and national exposure to Vermont's programs and new data to make informed choices about program offerings and delivery models.

Graduate with a Plan

Goal: increase the number of high school aged Vermonters who graduate with a career and education plan for after high school with the support of a trusted adult.

- → Provide **navigator training** to better equip student-serving adults (from teachers to employers) to support students in exploration and planning.
- → Develop and pilot a **model curriculum** for career and education planning in middle and high schools.





Budget Request

Advance Vermont seeks a base appropriation of \$350k to sustain and expand MyFutureVT and enhance its statewide reach and impact.

State support will enable MyFutureVT to:

- → Remain a free, accessible statewide resource
- → Expand content, functionality, and resources
- → Increase awareness and usage





An Urgent Need



2.7 jobs for every Vermonter looking for work

78% of "most promising" jobs require a credential





People with credentials are...



More likely to have financial stability



More likely to vote



More likely to have healthy families



More likely to be engaged in the community



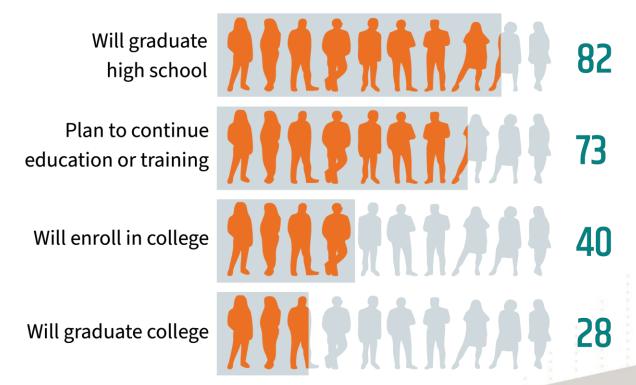
Less likely to be food insecure



Less likely to experience homelessness

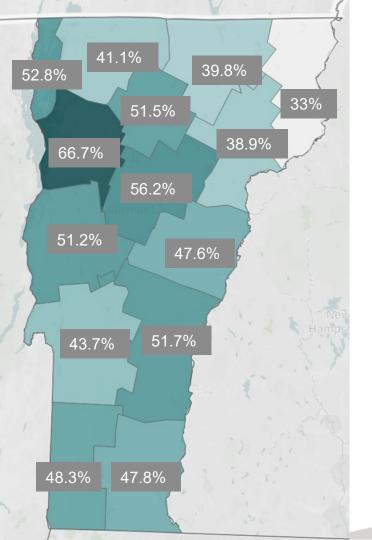


Of Every 100 Vermont High School Students



Source: Common Data Project, New England Secondary Schools Consortium; VSAC



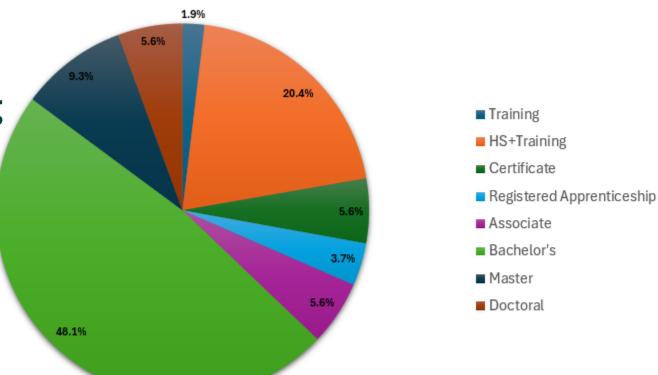


Percentage of County Population That Has Earned a Credential (ages 25-64)

The median attainment rate for counties outside of Chittenden County is 47.8%.

Source: Lumina Foundation 2025 Stronger Nation Report

Education
Requirement for
"Most Promising
Jobs"

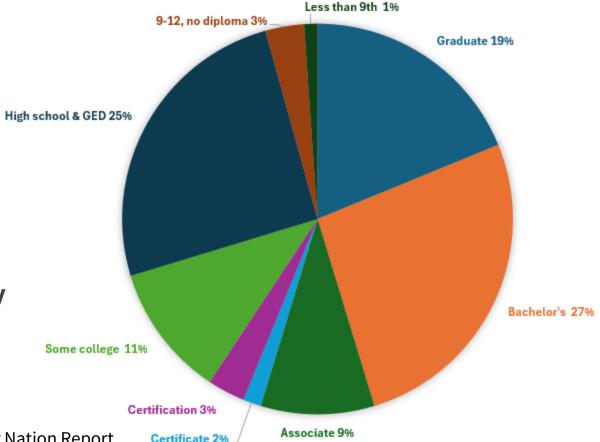


Source: McClure Foundation & VDOL, 2024



Highest Level of Education For Vermonters Age 25-64

Major growth opportunity for non-degree options



Source: Lumina Foundation 2025 Stronger Nation Report



Future Planning Activities Class of 2022

Participated in internship (13%)

Researched education/training needed to do the work I want to do (54%)

Talked to an adult about careers (62%)

Female, first-gen

Male, second-gen

10%
Female, second-gen

12%
13%
17%

Male, first-gen

56%

65%

62%

63%

54%

54%

Source: VSAC 2023



Thank you



Visit <u>advancevermont.org</u> or <u>MyFutureVT.org</u> for more information

Tom Cheney, Executive Director Cheney@advancevermont.org