Middle-Skills Learning Opportunities
Jeff Livingston: The Most Neglected Skills

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What are Middle-Skill jobs?

- Jobs that require more than a high school education but less than a bachelor’s degree.

- Include occupations such as:
  - Machinists
  - Technicians
  - Healthcare workers

- Account for nearly half of all current jobs in New York, and the majority of future job openings.
The Forgotten Middle

There is a growing gap between qualified middle-skill employees and middle-skill jobs.

- There are approximately 4 million unfilled middle-skill jobs (Dimon, 2014).
- In 2009, 46% of jobs in NYS were middle-skill (3.8 million workers).
- Workers with two-year degrees in high demand occupations can earn salaries that surpass those of four-year degrees (Carnevale, Rose, & Cheah, 2011).
- Two-year degree holders in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, and math) have greater lifetime earnings than four-year degree holders in most other career areas.
The “College-for-All” Mentality

- Encourages all students to plan on college, regardless of their past achievement (Rosenbaum, 2001).

- Pushes underprepared students toward a four-year college at the expense of vocational programs.

- Has created a surplus of four-year college graduates that exceeds the number of college-level jobs available.
  - 35% of all four-year college graduates currently have jobs that require less than a college degree (Vedder, 2010).
  - 12 to 24 million U.S. jobs – most requiring middle-skills training – may go unfilled between now and 2020 (Gordon, 2009).
Manpower Group Annual Survey

Reveals top 10 hardest jobs to fill in the U.S. in 2014:

- Skilled Trades
- Restaurants & Hotel staff
- Sales Representatives
- Teachers
- Drivers
- Accounting & Finance Staff
- Laborers
- IT Staff
- Engineers
- Nurses
Middle-Skill training opportunities

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Middle-Skills
Computers

- Support Specialist
- Information Systems

Career Options

1. **Computer Information Systems**
   - Alfred State

2. **Information Technology**
   - Alfred State

3. **Networking Technologies**
   - Alfred State

4. **Cybersecurity**
   - Alfred State

5. **Geospatial Technologies**
   - Alfred State

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Construction Career Options

- Carpenters
- Electricians
- Operating Engineers
- Plumbers

Diesel Technology
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Construction Technology
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Welding
Alfred State

Electrical
Alfred State

Building Trades
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Career Options

**Healthcare**
- Medical Lab Technicians
- Licensed Practical Nurses
- Radiology Technicians

- Histo-technician
- EMT Paramedic
- Nursing Alfred State
- Dental Hygiene
- Polysomnography

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Installation Maintenance and Repair

- Aircraft Mechanics
- Auto Mechanics
- HVAC
- Heavy Equipment Mechanics
- Machinists

Career Options

- HVAC
  Alfred State
- Automotive Technology
  Alfred State
- Advanced MFG
  Alfred State
- Aircraft Maintenance
  Alfred State
- Machinists
  Alfred State

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Career Options

Service
- Chef
- Hospitality
- Restaurant Management

Culinary Arts
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Food Services
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Hotel and Restaurant Management
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Gaming and Casino Management

Viticulture and Wine Technology
Green Energy Career Options

- Conservation
- Forestry
- Green Building Maintenance

Renewable Energy Technologies
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Wind Energy & Turbine Technology
Alfred State

Green Building Maintenance & Management

Environmental Science and Forestry

Alternative Energy

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New Student Orientation

Career Options

Other
- Architectural Drafters
- Civil Engineering Technicians
- Teaching Assistant
- Paralegals

Drafting
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Engineering Tech
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Early Childhood

Paralegal
Alfred State

Veterinary Technician
Alfred State

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Mike Rowe: Where the Jobs Are

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Sources