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Beacon
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Report: workforce not prepared for next decade

Forty percent of job openings in the next decade are expected to require more than a high school diploma, but almost three-quarters (71 percent) of New Mexico working age adults lack even a two-year college degree. Until we invest in the education of our workforce, we cannot expect many of those new jobs to locate in the Land of Enchantment.

Those are the findings of a new report from New Mexico Voices for Children. The report includes several recommendations for how the state can better prepare its workforce for the jobs of the future.

The report was released

at the New Mexico Governor's Forum in Santa Fe. The Governor's Forum, Building a Green Tech and Health Care Worker Pilot Program, focused on two high-growth industries—health care and green technology—and how to help more New Mexicans who are already in the workforce prepare for them.

NM Voices for Children Research Director Gerry Bradley has been invited to present some of the report's findings at the forum. The report is part of the national initiative Working Poor Families Project.

The full report is available online at http://www.nmvoices.org/fpp_publications.htm

(Editor's Note: New Mexico Voices for Children is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization advocating for policies to improve the health and well-being of New Mexico's children, families and communities.)