

[BOARD INFORMATION](#)[INDUSTRY COALITIONS](#)[INITIATIVES & STANDARDS](#)[LINKS](#)

The NSSB: A Brief Description

The National Skill Standards Board (NSSB)

The NSSB is an unprecedented coalition of leaders from business, labor, employee, education, and community and civil rights organizations created in 1994 to build a voluntary national system of skill standards, assessment and certification systems to enhance the ability of the United States workforce to compete effectively in a global economy. These skills are being identified by industry in full partnership with labor, civil rights and community-based organizations. The standards will be based on high performance work and will be portable across industry sectors.

The NSSB has categorized the workforce into 15 industry sectors, which, under the guidance of the NSSB, are assembling skill standards, assessment and certification for their respective industries. The sectors are:

- ◆ Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing
- ◆ Business and Administrative Services
- ◆ Construction
- ◆ Education and Training
- ◆ Finance and Insurance
- ◆ Health and Human Services
- ◆ Manufacturing, Installation and Repair
- ◆ Mining
- ◆ Public Administration, Legal and Protective Services
- ◆ Restaurants, Lodging, Hospitality and Tourism, and Amusement and Recreation
- ◆ Retail Trade, Wholesale Trade, Real Estate and Personal Services
- ◆ Scientific and Technical Services
- ◆ Telecommunications, Computers, Arts and Entertainment, and

[Search](#)[Clearinghouse](#)[Members](#)[Contact us](#)[Disclaimer](#)[Info Pack](#)[HOME](#)

Information

- ◆ Transportation
- ◆ Utilities and Environmental and Waste Management.

Skill standards development is nearing completion in two important sectors - manufacturing and the retail/wholesale industries. The Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) and the Sales & Service Voluntary Partnership, Inc. (S&SVP), plan to complete initial standards development in their respective industries this year. On October 1, 1999, the education and training convening group was recognized as the Education and Training Voluntary Partnership (E&TVP), which plans to release skill standards in 2001. In January of this year, the Utility Industry Group (UIG) was created to begin the development of skill standards in the utility industry. Finally on May 16, 2000, the NSSB recognized the Hospitality and Tourism Industry Coalition as the organization's fourth Voluntary Partnership. Coalition building efforts continue for the finance and insurance, business and administrative services, and telecommunications industry sectors.

The NSSB is benchmarking the US system at the international level to ensure that it is world-class. In the past year, leaders from Singapore, Mexico, Brazil, Chile, the United Kingdom and several other nations have visited the NSSB. Their intent was to share their progress with us, and to learn more about our system development plans and ways they might benefit from our research and experience to apply in the development of their own skill standards systems.

To keep up with NSSB's progress, check out **NSSB Online**. Our site contains the most extensive collection of skills-related information on the Internet. The site also hosts an electronic version of the NSSB Clearinghouse, which houses nearly 1,600 skills-related documents; a categorized system of nearly 200 links to domestic and international skills certification programs; and detailed information on all our industry coalitions. You can also visit the websites of our partners in the national skill standards system via links on our homepage by simply clicking on the logos for each voluntary partnership found at the bottom of the page.

Please feel free to contact the NSSB for more information at:

information@nssb.org or by telephone at (202) 254-8628

begin_of_the_skype_highlighting (202) 254-

8628 end_of_the_skype_highlighting or toll free at (877) THE-NSSB

begin_of_the_skype_highlighting (877) THE-

NSSB end_of_the_skype_highlighting (843-6772).



We welcome your comments and feedback.

E-mail [NSSB](#) or call (202) 254-8628 begin_of_the_skype_highlighting (202) 254-8628 end_of_the_skype_highlighting or fax us at (202) 254-8646 begin_of_the_skype_highlighting (202) 254-8646 end_of_the_skype_highlighting.

Our mailing address is 1441 L Street NW Suite 9000 Washington, DC 20005- 3512.

© Copyright 1998-2000, NSSB - All Rights Reserved