

# New Economy Workforce Credential Grant Program

## 2018-2019 Demand Occupations List

### Purpose

The New Economy Workforce Credential Grant Program was developed during the 2016 General Assembly Session to create and sustain a supply of credentialed workers to fill high-demand occupations in fields which support the state's economy while making the attainment of these credentials more affordable. The legislation requires the Virginia Board of Workforce Development (VBWD) to identify a list of high-demand fields and occupations and maintain that list, along with related noncredit workforce training programs and credentials, on its website.

In March 2016, the Chairman of the Virginia Board of Workforce Development created the Demand Occupation Task Force to identify the fields and occupations for the Virginia Demand Occupations (VDO) List. The task force annually develops and publishes the list of occupations and related programs.

The Board recognizes that Virginia business need a portfolio of talent, some of which can be developed through short-term workforce training, such as the training supported by this grant program. This list is not intended to address every occupation for which there is demand. The types of certification programs that the Workforce Credential Grant program supports may change based on industry requirements. Local institutions, after consulting regional labor market information and with input from industry, validate regional demand for an occupation, determine the related training/credentialing, and the most cost effective and efficient way to deliver programming.

### Methodology

#### Virginia Demand Occupations List

The taskforce identified 3 primary criteria for inclusion on the Virginia Demand Occupations List. They include: 1) the occupational groups' relevance to the State's economic development strategy, 2) the degree to which advanced skills are required for entry into an occupation, and 3) the projected statewide demand for an occupation.

##### *Strategic to Virginia's Economy*

The Demand Occupation Taskforce selected the following major occupation groups for inclusion in the Demand Occupations List for 2018-2019 year based on the degree to which they support Virginia's economic development strategy.

15-0000 Computer and Mathematical Occupations	43-0000 Office and Administrative Support Occupations
17-0000 Architecture and Engineering Occupations	47-0000 Construction and Extraction Occupations
19-0000 Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	49-0000 Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations
25-0000 Education, Training, and Library Occupations	51-0000 Production Occupations
29-0000 Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	53-0000 Transportation and Material Moving Occupations
31-0000 Healthcare Support Occupations	

##### *Advanced Skills Requirements*

The taskforce reviewed the typical education required to enter the occupations in each group and limited the list to those that require some post-secondary education, but less than a Master's degree. Attainment of many of these jobs is dependent, in part, on the development of occupationally specific competencies and a related industry-recognized post-secondary credential.

##### *Projected Statewide Demand*

In an effort to focus attention and investment in occupations with a high number of anticipated openings, the list features those occupations which are projected to have more than 100 statewide openings annually.

### Regional Petitions

In order to be responsive to industry needs, changing skills requirements, emerging occupations, and unique developments in Virginia's workforce regions, the VBWD will receive petitions for inclusion on the Virginia Demand Occupations List. Petitions may be pursued to address unmet employer demand. Petitions may be submitted to the VBWD at any time and will be responded to within 45 days of receipt. The petition form, sample letter, and further instructions can be found at [www.elevatevirginia.org](http://www.elevatevirginia.org).

The 2014-2024 employment projections are provided by the Virginia Employment Commission. Calculations of annual openings include openings due to replacement and growth.