

XI. COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

State colleges and universities make important contributions to vocational-technical education in two ways:

(1) Through Occupational Education. Many of these institutions prepare individuals for a variety of technical occupations requiring less than a baccalaureate degree. State and land-grant institutions, for example, conduct some of the nation's most successful associate-degree programs in such fields as engineering, agriculture, the allied health professions, and industrial technology. Those with strong technical-education departments provide training in a manner difficult to duplicate in other types of institutions.

(2) Through the Training of Teachers. Collegiate programs for the preparation of teachers of vocational, technical, and industrial subjects in junior colleges, vocational schools, and technical institutions should be greatly expanded. One of the most pressing needs today is effective teaching of the technical content and skills required for entrance into and advancement in occupations in which manpower is in critically short supply. Technological advancements make it imperative that greatly expanded in-service training opportunities be provided for those currently teaching vocational, industrial, and technical subjects. Shortage of adequately prepared teachers is hampering development and expansion of vocational-technical education.

These Associations therefore, support:

(A) Necessary amendments to and increase in authorizations for the Vocational Education Act of 1963 to permit colleges and universities, including junior colleges and 4-year colleges, to participate more adequately in vocational and technical education programs.

(B) In-service training programs, fellowships for prospective and experienced vocational-education instructors and administrators, and adequate financing of teacher education programs in vocational and technical education.