



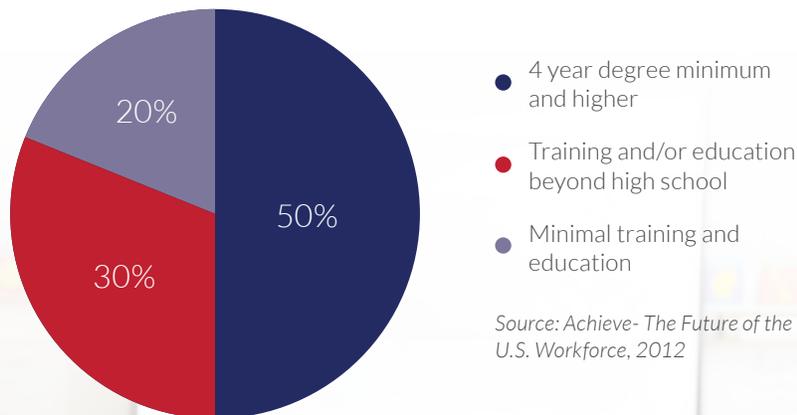
## THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS: PREPARING STUDENTS TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN TENNESSEE'S WORKFORCE

The Common Core State Standards are more rigorous than Tennessee's old standards, focusing on more critical thinking and problem solving, which are the real world skills that students need to be successful in education beyond high school and in the workforce. Here are skills students will master with the Common Core State Standards:

- **Think critically, reason, and make informed decisions**
  - Today's manufacturing jobs, for example, go far beyond the simple production tasks of the past. Employees must be able to modify and adjust to rapidly changing demands.
- **Communicate verbally and in written form**
  - Tennessee's graduates will be able to write technical and informative reports, as well as present key ideas in front of a broad audience.
- **Learn , develop, and apply new skill sets**
  - The principle behind the Common Core State Standards is not to graduate a student who is job ready in every sector; it's to graduate a student who is equipped to easily acquire the necessary skills for any job. Simply put: Future employees will be trainable to meet their employer's needs.
- **Reason through the "why" of a process and not just the "how"**
  - In most businesses, the process is as important as the product. Future employees will be able to think through the process of a product.
- **Solve problems through reasoning skills**
  - Future employees will be able to deduce solutions for problems ranging from the assembly line to the corporate sales office.

- **Incorporate technology into learning, problem solving, and communicating**
  - Tennessee graduates will be able to use technology to find, apply, and present information to co-workers.
- **Actively listen and engage in discussions**
  - Employees will be able to collaborate around production and effectiveness.
- **Use data to make decisions**
  - Data is only as useful as the ability to understand and apply it. Graduates will be able to use data for problem solving and improvement.
- **Self-evaluate performance**
  - Employees will be able to make adjustments to increase productivity and effectiveness.

## TENNESSEE JOBS REQUIRING TRAINING AFTER HIGH SCHOOL



Source: Achieve- The Future of the U.S. Workforce, 2012