Nearly all companies offer resources for employee education, but many employees either do not know about or do not take advantage of benefits.

Employee schedules can make it challenging to pursue traditional post-secondary education programs.

Resources for education can be vulnerable in tight economic times.

Most companies do not focus explicitly on increasing postsecondary degree attainment for employees, but rather on ensuring employees have needed skills.

Employees without postsecondary degrees may get less attention in many large companies with a highly educated workforce.

Today’s workers typically have shorter tenure at any one employer. This has implications for employers as they think about investments in education.

Quality partnerships between companies and postsecondary institutions are needed, but take extensive time and resources to get right, and depend on many factors.

We must focus also on the role of “place”: Broader regional strategies can help mobilize employers to support their employee educational attainment.

By 2018, more than 60% of jobs in the United States will require postsecondary credentials.

Americans with a bachelor's or higher degree earn twice as much as those with a high school diploma or less.

Currently, fewer than 40% of Americans have a college degree.

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In the summer of 2014:
- 4.7 million jobs unfilled
- 9.7 million adults unemployed

“Just as we focus on people, we must also focus on places if we want our college attainment efforts to succeed... While many factors contribute to the quality of life in a city, its education attainment level is a powerful determinant... An educated city demands better schools, values diversity, and embraces the arts... These efforts work best when they involve all of the relevant stakeholders: that is, political, business, education, philanthropic, faith-based, and community leaders.”

- Jamie P. Merisotis, President & CEO, Lumina Foundation (2012)