



NSPS workforce development campaign yields immediate results

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Within 24 hours of submitting a letter to his state's Career and Technical Education (CTE) office, TJ Frazier, President of the Maryland Society of Surveyors received a response and a scheduled meeting to discuss workforce development in the surveying and geospatial community.

The Maryland effort is part of the NSPS national workforce development initiative, designed to help attract the next generation of professional surveyors and technicians. That program begins with a letter-writing campaign by state surveying societies, as well as by local chapters and individual surveyors and firms.

On the NSPS [website](#), a new page for workforce development has been created. On it are two sample letters to urge state and local workforce agencies to place a focus and emphasis on the surveying and geospatial workforce.

The first is a sample letter that every state surveying society is urged to use to send to its state Career and Technical Education (CTE) office. It is drafted as a letter for Virginia from the Virginia Association of Surveyors, but it can be modified and personalized for each respective state. NSPS encourages every state affiliate to adapt this letter and send it to their state CTE office. Included on the top of the letter is a [link](#) to the name and address of every state CTE office and official.

The second sample letter should be used by chapters of state affiliate societies, or individual surveyors and/or surveying firms, to send to their local workforce development board and office. Included on the top of the letter is a [link](#) to the every local workforce board across the nation. This is the first step in a NSPS effort to attract more individuals into a career in surveying. The Federal government provides more than \$2 billion to state and local government for workforce development and career and technical education through the Departments of Labor and Education. These letters are a way for state and local surveying organizations to tap into the benefits of those funds. Every state should send a letter to their state CTE official and chapters/individual members should write their local workforce board.

Please send copies of your letters to Trisha Milburn of NSPS (trisha.milburn@nsps.us.com) so all of the surveying community's efforts can be catalogued.