

The bipartisan, bicameral **Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act (S 722 HR 1477)** would expand qualified expenses under 529 savings plans to include postsecondary training and credentialing programs, such as licenses and nongovernmental certifications. The bill would also provide valuable tax-advantaged resources for students and workers—with or without a college degree—who pursue career growth, mid-career changes or career pathways that diverge from a typical academic route.

S 722 / HR 1477 would support any industry or profession that relies on practitioners with specialized knowledge, expertise, skills and capabilities. Senator Klobuchar, Senator Braun, Congressman Wittman and Congresswoman Spanberger lead the bill.

Below outlines select credentials within notable sectors:

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### **Manufacturing & Construction**

#### [Certified Welder](#) - *American Welding Society*

- Demonstrates ability to weld critical materials and oversee safe production of materials.
- No college degree required.

#### [Certified Quality Inspector](#) - *American Society for Quality*

- Certificants evaluate hardware documentation, perform laboratory procedures, inspect products, measure process performance, record data and prepare reports.
- No college degree required.

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### **Agriculture**

#### [Certified Crop Adviser](#) - *American Society of Agronomy*

- Certified to advise growers and farm managers on best-practices in agronomics.
- No college degree required.

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### **Transportation, Infrastructure & Energy**

#### [Professional Traffic Operations Engineer](#) - *Transportation Professional Certification Board, Inc.*

- Demonstrates knowledge, skills and capability to work within traffic operations engineering.
- No college degree required.

#### [Certified Aviation Manager Program](#) - *National Business Aviation Association*

- Demonstrates knowledge, skills and capability to lead flight departments and certain companies that use business aircraft.
- Aviation trade school required.

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### **Retail**

#### [Certified Retail Management Expert](#) - *American Institute for Business Management & Communication*

- Demonstrates mastery of the retail management body of knowledge.
- College degree or on-the-job experience and skills training required.

#### [Certified Professional Sales Person](#) - *National Association of Sales Professionals*

- Demonstrates knowledge, skills and capability of a top performer in sales.
- No college degree required.

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### **Tech & Cybersecurity**

#### [Certified Information Systems Security Professional](#) - *(ISC)2*

- Demonstrates ability to design, implement and manage best-in-class cybersecurity programs.
- Requires work experience with either a college degree or a credential on the (ISC)2 approved list.

## Tech & Cybersecurity

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### [Certified Ethical Hacker](#) - *International Council of Electronic Commerce Consultants (EC-Council)*

- Demonstrates skills and capability to utilize weaknesses and vulnerabilities in target systems to assess security in a lawful manner.
- Applicants must pass the official EC-Council training course, or, if they have two years' experience in information security, they can take the certification exam directly.

## Education

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### [Certified Teaching English as a Second Language](#) - *TEFL.org*

- Demonstrates ability to teach English language classes.
- No college degree required.

### [Certified Health Education Specialist](#) - *NCHEC*

- Demonstrates knowledge and skillsets across the *Eight Areas of Responsibility for Health Education Specialist*: assessment of needs and capacity; planning; implementation; evaluation and research; advocacy; communication; leadership and management; ethics and professionalism.
- College degree required.

## Financial Services

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### [Certified Financial Planner](#) - *Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards*

- Standard of excellence in financial planning—certified professionals meet rigorous education, training and ethical standards.
- College degree, coursework and work experience required.

### [Accredited Financial Counselor](#) - *Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education*

- Demonstrates highly advanced knowledge and skill within the personal finance profession.
- College degree with coursework or completion of an independent training program by an AFC-accredited training organization plus work experience are required.

## Healthcare

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### [Certified Dental Assistant](#) - *Dental Assisting National Board*

- Provides certification to individuals trained to assist dentists treat patients.
- Requires completion of a CODA-accredited dental assisting or hygiene program, a registered dental hygienist license or 3500 hours of dental work experience with a HS diploma.

### [Certified Pharmacy Technician](#) - *Pharmacy Technician Certification Board*

- Qualifies pharmacists to operate within advanced practice areas.
- Requires completion of a PTCB-recognized training program, pharmacy degree or equivalent work experience as a pharmacy technician.

### [Certified First Responder](#) - *NREMT*

- Demonstrates knowledge, skills and capability to provide immediate lifesaving care.
- No college degree required.

### [Certified EMT Basic](#) - *NREMT*

- Demonstrates knowledge, skills and capability to provide out-of-hospital emergency medical care and transportation.
- No college degree required.