

# Strengthening America's Technology Workforce



- REQUESTS: 1. Cosponsor the bipartisan *Keep STEM Talent Act***  
**2. Support the *CHIPS and Science Act's* broad workforce training programs**

## **HIGH-SKILLED IMMIGRATION & WORKFORCE**

While it is essential that Congress invest in Americans' education and training, immigrants have a vital role to play in America's innovation economy as well. There are talented, innovative, and creative people all over the world – and America needs them.

IEEE-USA supports reforms to America's green card-based immigration system to make it easier for innovative, high-skilled non-Americans to become citizens. The bipartisan *Keep STEM Talent Act*, in the House by Rep. Bill Foster (D-IL) and in the Senate by Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD), would help accomplish this by easing the transition from student visa to citizenship, while also including reasonable protections for American workers and students.

## **CHIPS ACT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

The *CHIPS and Science Act of 2022* was an aggressive investment in American technology manufacturing. But it was also an aggressive investment in American workers. Congress recognized that the United States cannot remain the world's preeminent technological power without the world's most skilled and innovative workforce.

To that end, Congress included in the *CHIPS Act* programs for Americans to gain the skills needed to ensure the success of *CHIPS Act* investments. But while a chip manufacturing facility can be built in a couple years, a high-tech workforce cannot. Skilled workers require training, education, and retraining as technology advances – all of which requires sustained investments.

Many of these *CHIPS Act* programs explicitly included support for rural America and under-resourced groups. Moreover, the programs appropriately defined "education" very broadly to including technical training, apprenticeships, and other non-degree programs. IEEE-USA enthusiastically supports these programs and urges that they be fiscally prioritized in FY 2026.

### **IEEE-USA Staff Contacts**

**Erik Heilman**  
Director, Government Relations  
(202) 530-8325  
e.heilman@ieee.org

**Annie Perrin Grisham**  
Policy Associate  
(202) 298-1354  
a.grisham@ieee.org