



Tech Across the Curriculum:

Embedding Career-Ready Digital Skills Into Every Classroom



Tamra Askins



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My Journey

The work experiences that shaped my teaching.



Worked at a
brand-new Hardee's
and received
start-up training



Earned my BS
in Marketing/Advertising
at Murray State
University



Began my career
working retail
in Nashville



Returned to college as an
adult learner, earned my
MAT in Business Education,
and now teach Business
Education while helping
students build career-ready skills



Tech Across the Curriculum

Career-Ready Digital Skills Toolkit

The Five Digital Skills That Support
College Success and Workplace Readiness



Scan me



Digital
Communication



Microsoft Office
& Digital Productivity



Digital
Collaboration



Information &
AI Literacy



Digital Organization
& Self-Management



Why These 5 Skills?

Research behind the Career-Ready Digital Skills Toolkit



Employers Say

- Communication matters most
- Technology skills must be practical
- Teamwork and professionalism matter



Colleges Say

- Students need stronger digital habits
- Collaboration skills are essential
- AI use requires guidance and judgment



The Overlap

- College success and career readiness align
- The same digital habits support both
- That overlap shaped this toolkit



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National Association of Colleges and Employers Job Outlook 2025

COMMUNICATION

- **96.1%** of employers rated communication as **very or extremely important**.
- **53.5%** rated recent graduates as **very or extremely proficient** in communication.

PROFESSIONALISM

- **89.4%** employers rated professionalism as **very or extremely important**.
- **50.3%** rated recent graduates as **very or extremely proficient** in professionalism.



[View the NACE Job Outlook 2025 report](#)

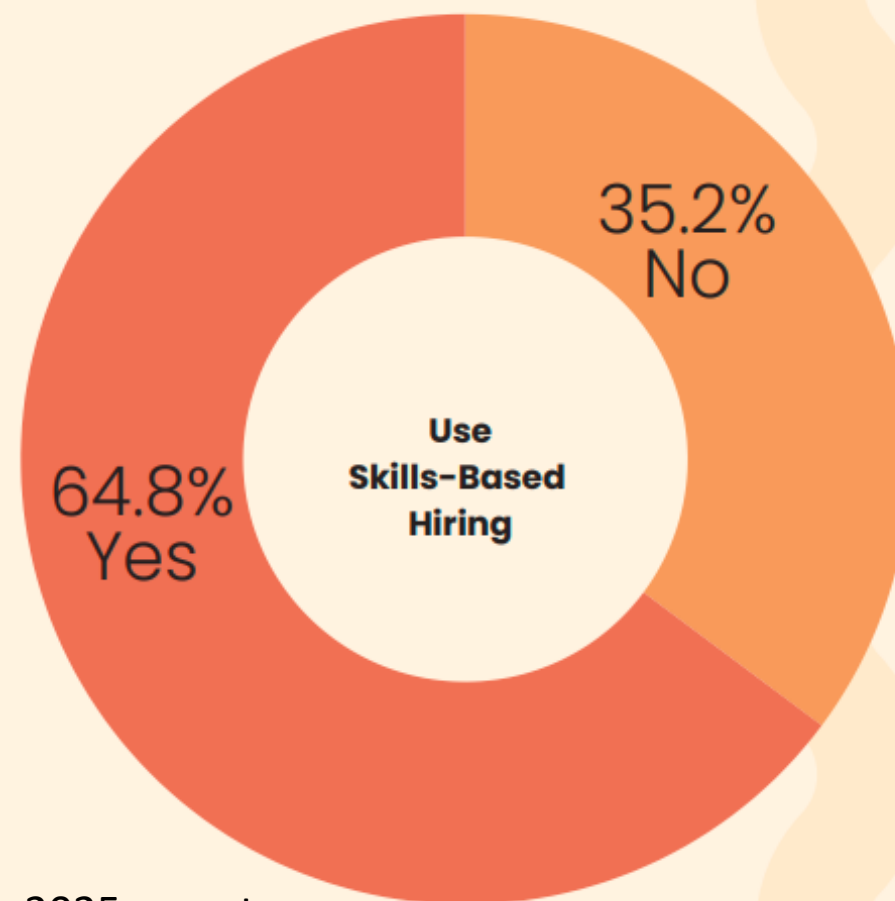




National Association of Colleges and Employers

Job Outlook 2025

**Most Employers
Use Skills-Based
Hiring Practices**



Total Respondents = 193

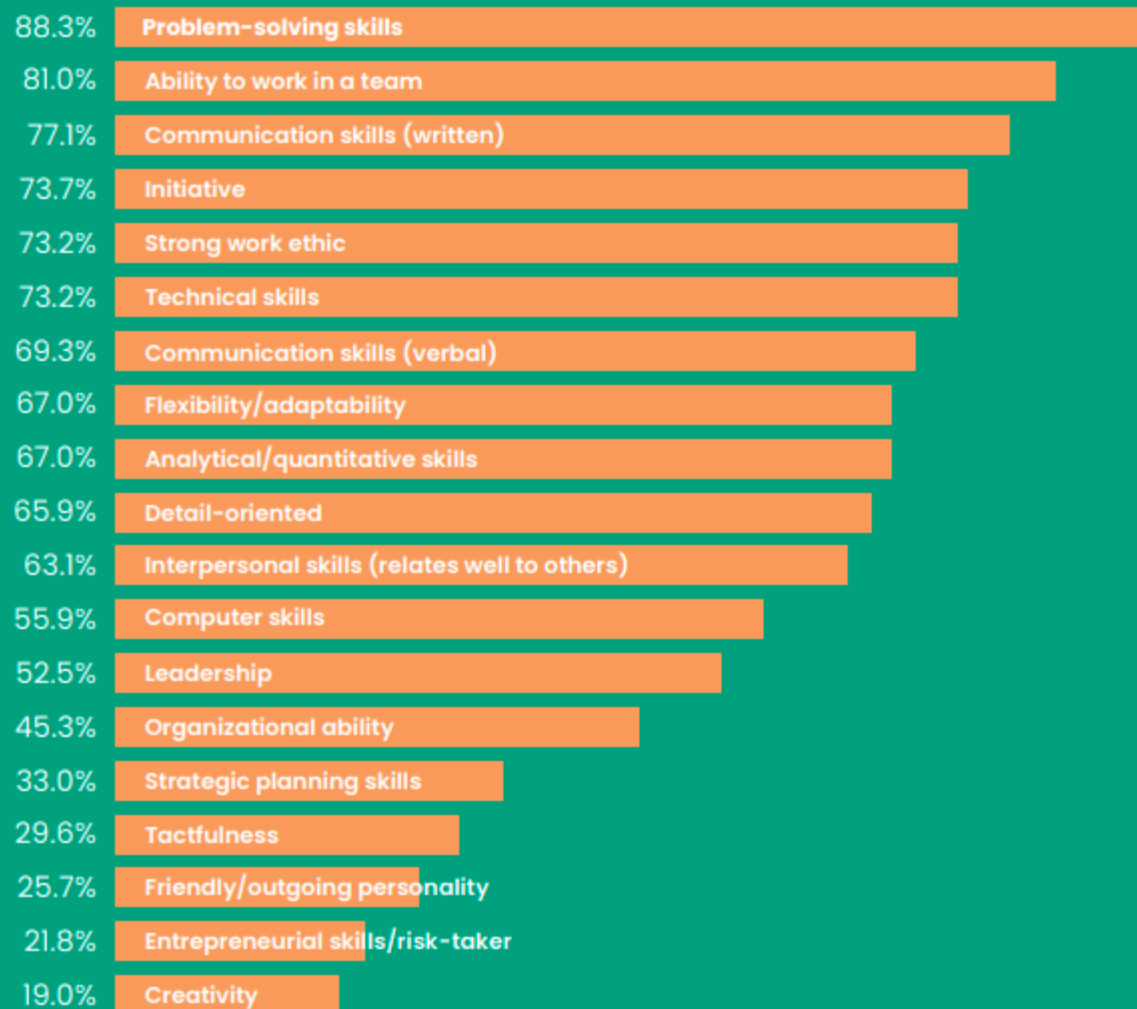
[View the NACE Job Outlook 2025 report](#)



National Association of Colleges and Employers

Job Outlook 2025

Attributes Employers Seek on a Candidate's Resume



[View the NACE Job Outlook 2025 report](#)



National Association of Mrs. Askins Business Co-op

Survey of Employers 2023-25



TECHNOLOGY: To improve training of students in the high school classroom, please share what computer software /hardware or apps your company uses most often.
(For example: Google, Microsoft, QuickBooks, Photoshop, social media - laptop computers, tablets, handheld devices, etc.)

Microsoft	18.42%
PCs	1.75%
Computer	15.79%
Laptop	5.26%
Tablets	13.16%
Google	14.04%
POS	15.79%

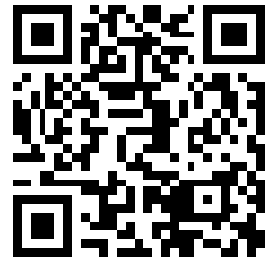


114 Employers of DCHS Students Responded to Survey





Let's Take a Look...



Career-Ready Digital Skills Toolkit

#1 Professional Digital Communication

Practical resources for Digital Literacy, Business Essentials, Marketing, and Management





Takeaway, I hope! 😊

#1 We do not have to create five new technology units. We can embed these skills into the lessons we are already teaching.

- A Marketing project can also teach file organization.
- A Management activity can also teach digital collaboration.
- A Business Essentials assignment can also teach professional email.
- An Excel project can also teach communication and decision-making.
- And an AI activity can teach students to question, verify, and think critically.

#2 Our students may not all enter the same career or attend the same college.

But every one of them will need to communicate, create, collaborate, evaluate, and organize in a digital world.



The toolkit is designed to make teaching easier!





Where I found this great info!

National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE): Career Readiness Competencies and employer/new-graduate proficiency research.

Microsoft Education / IDC: Research with 800+ business and IT leaders on Microsoft Office, productivity tools, collaboration, and workplace skills.

Jisc Digital Experience Insights 2024–25: Higher-education student research on digital-skills support, employability, collaboration, and AI.

AACSB / Deloitte / Quinnipiac University: Research on the continuing gap between education and rapidly evolving employer skill needs

