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Employers invest in education

Hearing that college costs are rising faster than family income comes as no surprise to families in the Kansas City area (12/3, A-1, "College burden piled on families; Report shows larger chunks of Kansas and Missouri family incomes are paying for tuition"). This is concerning, as we face an economic crisis from which we will only recover through the growth of new industries needing skilled workers.

While government can do more to offset the cost of education for working adults, we can also work in partnership with employers and workers who are interested in going back to school.

Missouri and Kansas are doing this through OneKC WIRED's pilot of Lifelong Learning Accounts. With LiLAs, a worker's investment in his or her own education is matched by the employer — helping us put postsecondary education and training in reach of more workers in order to build a stronger regional economy.

For more information about LiLAs, visit MyLiLaNow.com

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