



TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION OFFICE OF EMPLOYER INITIATIVES

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Office of Employer Initiatives has a diverse portfolio of programs and services to support the workforce needs of current and prospective Texas businesses.



SKILLS Development Fund

A Texas public community college, technical college, a local Workforce Development Board, or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service can apply for the grant in partnership with a business, business consortium, or trade union. Program parameters include:

- Up to \$500,000 per business (more for a consortium) for customized training needed by the business
- Target average cost per trainee of \$2,000
- Training for full-time employees
- Employers must pay prevailing wages in the local labor market for the trainees funded under the grant

Public community or technical colleges, or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service can provide intensive and rapid response to, and support services for, employers expanding in or relocating operations to Texas. These employers must provide complex or high-skilled employment opportunities. Program parameters include:

- Developing customized workforce training programs
- Fast-track curriculum development
- Workforce training-related support services for employers
- Instructor certification necessary to provide workforce training
- Acquiring training equipment necessary for instructor certification and employment



SKILLS Recruit Texas



SKILLS For Small Business

A small business with fewer than 100 employees can apply for the grant. Program parameters include:

- Up to \$1,800 per new hires and up to \$900 per incumbent worker for tuition and fees in a 12-month period
- Training for full-time employees
- Training selected from courses offered by a Texas public community or technical college or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service
- Employers must pay prevailing wages in the local labor market for the trainees funded under the grant

A private, nonprofit community-based organization (501c3), public community college, technical college, or Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service can apply for a grant of up to \$500,000 for training projects. Program parameters include:

- Training for adult recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) or individuals at risk of becoming dependent on public assistance and individuals earning less than \$37,000 with a dependent child (custodial or non-custodial).
- Training must result in an acceptable industry-recognized certification that leads to permanent full-time employment opportunities
- Target average cost per trainee of \$2,100

Self-Sufficiency Fund



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The Local Workforce Development Board applies for the grant and collaborates with an eligible, Type A or Type B, Economic Development Corporation to leverage sales tax dollars and provide high-demand occupational job training in their local workforce areas. Program parameters include:

- Up to \$1 million to fund training in locally identified high-demand jobs identified by the board while funds are available
- Participating boards use the funds to match dollar-for-dollar (up to \$150,000 annually) of EDC(s)' Texas Development Corporation Act funds and must be used to support Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)-allowable, high-demand job training activities and related direct costs

High Demand Job Training

Texas Industry Partnership Program

The Local Workforce Development Board applies for the grant and collaborates with eligible Private Industry Partners to leverage funding to provide high-demand occupational job training in their local workforce areas. Boards receiving grants will match dollar for dollar (up to \$150,000) of Industry Partner(s) funds to support Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)-allowable, high demand job training activities and related direct costs in these designated industry clusters:

- Advanced Technologies and Manufacturing
- Aerospace and Defense
- Biotechnology and Life Sciences
- Information Technology
- Petroleum Refining and Chemical Products
- Energy

Texas public community, technical and state colleges and Independent School Districts (in partnership with a Texas public community, technical or state college) can apply for a JET grant to purchase and install equipment necessary for the development of career and technical education courses or programs that lead to a license, certificate or post-secondary degree in a high-demand occupation.

- \$16 million available for the 2020-21 biennium
- 6-member JET Advisory Board assists TWC in the administration of the grants



TEXAS WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

TWC also partners with the 28 Workforce Development Boards located statewide to further assist businesses with solutions to their workforce needs, including assistance in obtaining tax credits and labor market information. These valuable services can significantly reduce the cost of recruiting, retaining, and training employees.