

**Panhandle Workforce
Development Board
Meeting Agenda
July 21, 2021**



NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 21, 2021 in the conference room of Workforce Solutions Panhandle at 3120 Eddy Street, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas. Lunch will be served to members at 12:00 p.m.

The PWDB shall provide an opportunity for oral comments from the public during the meeting. Each person wishing to make a public comment shall be limited to three (3) minutes and limited to speaking once per comment period. Comments shall be directed to the Board as a whole. Individual Board members will not respond to questions. In the event that a group of persons supporting/opposing the same position desires to be heard, in the interest of time, a spokesperson shall be designated to express the group's position.

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

3. **MINUTES**

Members will be asked to consider approval of the minutes from the Board's meeting held on May 26, 2021.

Also attached, for informational purposes, are:

- Minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body. Please note that the group concurred with the actions of the Board.
- Minutes of the June 23, 2021 meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Executive Committee.

4. **APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Chair has appointed members to the Executive Committee for the current year which covers July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. No action by the Board is required.

5. **REPORTS ON GRANTS**

A review of reports on the Panhandle's grants for October 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021 will be presented. No action by the Board is required.

6. **PROGRAM PRESENTATION - WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT**

Members will be presented with an overview of activities for the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs by Monica Martinez, WIOA Program Manager for Workforce Solutions Panhandle. No action by the Board is required.

7. **LOCAL MONITORING REPORT**

Members will be provided with an update on monitoring activities. No action by the Board is required.

8. **PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S CONTRACT FOR SERVICE DELIVERY**

Members will be asked to consider recommending the award of a Contract for the Service Delivery of Workforce Development and Child Care services in the Panhandle Workforce Development Area (PWDA), for the period of October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2025, with annual renewals contingent upon acceptable performance.

9. **CONTRACTOR'S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES**

Huxford Group, LLC President and WSP Director, Mr. Trent Morris, will discuss recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Board is required.

10. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES**

Workforce Development Director, Mr. Marin Rivas, will discuss recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Board is required.

11. **CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST**

12. **FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

13. **ADJOURN**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice complies with Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Open Meetings Act, Section 551.041 (Notice of Meeting Requirements); Section 551.043 (Time and Accessibility of Notice Requirements); and Section 551.053 (Notice Requirements of a Political Subdivision Extending into Four or More Counties). The notice has been filed at least 72 hours before the scheduled time of the meeting with the Secretary of State's Office, the Potter County Clerk's Office and has been posted in the Administrative Office of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.

Posted this 15th day of July, 2021, at 415 Southwest Eighth Avenue, Amarillo, Texas, at 12:00 p.m.



Leslie Hardin



ITEM 3



PANHANDLE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Panhandle Workforce Development Board

Minutes

May 26, 2021

The regular meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board (PWDB) was held on Wednesday, May 26, 2021. Due to the current COVID-19 crisis this meeting was held in hybrid format by videoconference pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127. Board members and individuals from the public who desired to attend in person, accessed the meeting at 415 South West Eighth Avenue, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas.

Mr. Charlie Rivas, presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Irene Arnold, Downtown Women's Center, Inc.
- Texas "Tex" Buckhaults, Clarendon College
- Kevin Caddell, Furniture Fashions, LTD
- Drew Downs, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 602
- Shawna Elliott, Pampa Chamber of Commerce
- Michelle Griffin, Amarillo National Bank-Borger Branch
- Kristi Hanes, Night & Day, Care & Play Inc.
- Art Martinez, Whiteface Heating & Air, Inc.
- Matt Parker, Baptist St. Anthony's Health System
- Charlie Rivas, Rivas Environmental Consultants, Inc.
- Valarie Robbins, Texas Workforce Solutions Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- John Roberts, Central South Carpenters Regional Council
- Lisa White, Amarillo Public Library
- Magi York, Panhandle Community Services

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Francisco Apodaca, Apodaca Brothers
- Betty Bara, La Fiesta Grande
- Jay Barrett, Amarillo Area Center for Academic Learning
- Norman Bearden, Texas Workforce Commission
- Tamara Clunis, Amarillo College
- Heather Freeman, CNS Pantex
- Jason Henderson, Bell Helicopter, Textron
- Laura Lopez, Hunting Titan Inc.
- Tonya McWilliams, Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- David Parker, United Supermarkets, LLC
- Michael Wright, Moore County News - Press

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ray Flores, Jennifer Galloway, Frances Garcia, Monica Martinez and Trent Morris, Workforce Solutions Panhandle (WSP).

STAFF PRESENT:

Kathy Cabezuela, Christian Campbell, Leslie Hardin, Heather Reid, Marin Rivas, Samantha Roybal and Trent Taylor.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Charlie Rivas, noting that a quorum was present.

2. INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

3. MINUTES

Members considered the approval of the minutes from the Board's February 24, 2021 meeting. Ms. Griffin moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Elliott seconded the motion; the motion carried.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Members considered the election of officers for the coming year covering July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Ms. Arnold moved to elect Ms. Griffin to serve as the Board's Chair. Mr. Charlie Rivas seconded; the motion carried. Ms. Griffin abstained from voting. Ms. Griffin moved to elect Mr. Matt Parker as the group's Vice-Chair. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion; the motion carried. Mr. Matt Parker abstained from voting.

5. AMENDED MEETING SCHEDULE

Members were asked to consider an amended meeting schedule. Ms. Griffin moved that the schedule be amended. Ms. White seconded the motion; the motion carried.

6. REPORTS ON GRANTS

Members reviewed reports on the Panhandle's grants for October 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. No action by the Board was required.

7. LOCAL MONITORING REPORT

Staff presented an update on monitoring activities. No action by the Board was required.

8. POLICY UPDATES

Members were asked to consider proposed update to two current local PWDB policies for:

a) Child Care Services –

One comment was recognized from Mr. Matt Parker, regarding providers offering non-traditional hours: The policy statement on Page 10, in the section entitled, Increase Maximum Reimbursement Rate to Providers Offering Non-traditional Hours, that the “Maximum reimbursement rate for non-traditional hours will be 1.5% of the current rates” needed clarification. In response, the policy will be amended to state that the “Maximum reimbursement rate for non-traditional hours will be the current rate multiplied by 1.5”.

Ms. Elliott moved to approve the update. Ms. Arnold seconded the motion; the motion carried. Ms. Hanes abstained.

b) Customer Incentives –

Ms. Griffin moved to approve the update. Ms. Arnold seconded the motion; the motion carried.

9. PROGRAM PRESENTATION-SPECIAL INITIATIVES

Members heard a presentation by Ms. Jennifer Galloway, Program Manager for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program with WSP, over the special initiatives activities for the Summer Earn and Learn (SEAL) and the Youth Summer Jobs project. No action by the Board was required.

10. CONTRACTOR’S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES

Mr. Trent Morris, Huxford Group, LLC President and WSP Director, discussed recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Board was required.

11. DIRECTOR’S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES

The Board heard a report on recent and upcoming workforce activities by Mr. Marin Rivas. No action by the Board was required.

12. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST

This item was for informational purposes only.

13. FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

14. ADJOURN

Mr. Roberts moved that the meeting adjourn. Ms. Griffin seconded; the meeting adjourned.



PANHANDLE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body

Minutes

May 27, 2021

A meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body was held on Thursday, May 27, 2021, at 11:30 a.m. Due to the current COVID-19 crisis this meeting was held in hybrid format by videoconference pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127. Board members and individuals from the public who desired to attend in person, accessed the meeting at 415 South West Eighth Avenue, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas.

Judge Looten presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Dan Looten, County of Carson
- Chris Porter, County of Gray
- Cindy Irwin, County of Hutchinson
- Terri Beth Carter, County of Sherman
- Harold Keeter, County of Swisher

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Ginger Nelson, City of Amarillo
- D J Wagner, County of Deaf Smith

OTHERS PRESENT:

Trent Morris, Workforce Solutions Panhandle

STAFF PRESENT:

Kathy Cabezuela, Christian Campbell, Leslie Hardin, Heather Reid, Marin Rivas, Samantha Roybal, and Trenton Taylor.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Judge Looten called the meeting to order noting that a quorum was present.

2. INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3. MINUTES

Members considered the minutes from the February 25, 2021 meeting of the Consortium's Governing Body. Judge Carter moved for approval. Judge Irwin seconded the motion; the motion carried.

4. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST

This item was for informational purposes only.

5. AMENDED MEETING SCHEDULE

Members considered amending the meeting schedule. Judge Carter moved to approve the amendment. Judge Irwin seconded the motion; the motion carried.

6. ITEMS CONSIDERED AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Members were asked to consider proposed updates to current local policy for:

- 1) Child Care Services – Judge Irwin moved to approve the update amended with the clarification language from the Board’s meeting regarding providers offering non-traditional hours: The policy statement on Page 10, in the section entitled, Increase Maximum Reimbursement Rate to Providers Offering Non-traditional Hours, that the “Maximum reimbursement rate for non-traditional hours will be 1.5% of the current rates”. The policy was amended to state that the “Maximum reimbursement rate for non-traditional hours will be the current rate multiplied by 1.5”.

Judge Harold Keeter seconded the motion; the motion carried.

- 2) Customer Incentives – Judge Carter moved to approve the update. Judge Irwin seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Members reviewed agenda items in total presented and Judge Irwin moved to concur with actions taken at the May 26, 2021 meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board. Judge Keeter seconded; the motion carried.

7. FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Body, Judge Carter moved for adjournment. Judge Irwin seconded; the meeting adjourned.



PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Executive Committee

Minutes

June 23, 2021

A meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC), 415 South West Eighth Avenue, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas.

Ms. Michelle Griffin, presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Jay Barrett, Amarillo Area Center for Academic Learning
- Michelle Griffin, Amarillo National Bank-Borger Branch
- Matt Parker, Baptist St. Anthony's Health System
- Irene Arnold, Downtown Women's Center, Inc.
- Michael Wright, Moore County News - Press
- Jason Henderson, Bell Helicopter, Textron

MEMBER ABSENT:

- Charlie Rivas, Rivas Environmental Consultants, Inc.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lisa Boyd, and Arlett Toliver, Equus Workforce Solutions; Trent Morris, Shelby Sillivent, and Rebecca Waggoner, Huxford Group.

STAFF PRESENT:

Kathy Cabezuela, Christian Campbell, Leslie Hardin, Heather Reid, and Marin Rivas

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Griffin called the meeting to order noting that a quorum was present.

2. INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3. MINUTES

Members considered the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting held on October 28, 2019. Mr. Barrett moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Arnold seconded the motion; the motion carried.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Members heard oral presentations from two entities, Equus Workforce Solutions and Huxford Group, which had submitted proposals to the Request for Proposals (RFP) to Deliver Workforce Development and Child Care Services in the Panhandle Workforce Development Area. No action by the Committee was required.

5. VIDEOS

Members viewed video presentations from the two entities, Equus Workforce Solutions and Huxford Group. No action by the Committee was required.

6. CLOSED SESSION - STAFF REVIEW AND SCORING OF PROPOSALS

Mr. Marin Rivas presented Board staff scoring process, results, analysis and summary of the RFP. Members discussed the proposals. No action by the Committee was required.

7. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Ms. Griffin reconvened the meeting in public session at 1:21 p.m.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Members considered a recommendation to be forwarded to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board to vote to authorize PRPC, as its fiscal and administrative agent, to award a one-year contract, from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, with the option of three additional one year annual renewals, contingent upon acceptable performance, to Huxford Group, LLC to deliver workforce development and child care program services in the Panhandle Workforce Development Area. Mr. Barrett made the motion as stated. Mr. Wright seconded the motion; the motion carried.

9. FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Parker moved that the meeting adjourn. Ms. Arnold seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned.



ITEM 4

An Executive Committee will be comprised of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and five additional members appointed by the Chairperson, giving consideration to a balanced representation of the Board as a whole. The Executive Committee will identify, analyze and develop recommendations on items, issues and initiatives as deemed appropriate by the Chairperson. At the discretion of the Chairperson, the Executive Committee may act on behalf of the Board on matters requiring such prompt action that the Board cannot be convened for a special meeting. Such actions will be subject to ratification by the Board.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
FOR JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022

– CHAIR –

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA II - HANSFORD, HEMPHILL, HUTCHINSON,
LIPSCOMB, OCHILTREE AND ROBERTS COUNTIES)**

Ms. Michelle Griffin, President
Amarillo National Bank – Borger Branch
Borger, Texas

– VICE CHAIR –

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)
Mr. Matt Parker, Vice President for Cardiovascular Services
Baptist St. Anthony’s Health System (BSA)
Amarillo, Texas

– CHAIR APPOINTMENTS –

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Mr. Jason Henderson, Operations Director
Bell Helicopter, Textron
Amarillo, Texas

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA I - DALLAM, HARTLEY,
MOORE, OLDHAM AND SHERMAN COUNTIES)**

Mr. Michael Wright, Publisher
Moore County News - Press
Dumas, Texas

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Jay Barrett, Principal
Amarillo Area Center for Advanced Learning
Amarillo Independent School District
Amarillo, Texas

PRIVATE SECTOR – AT LARGE

Mr. Charlie Rivas, Chief Executive Officer
Rivas Environmental Consultants
Amarillo, Texas

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Irene Arnold, Case Manager
Downtown Women’s Center, Inc.
Amarillo, Texas



ITEM 5



MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 21, 2021

TO: Members of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board, the Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body, PRPC and Contractor Staff

FROM: Marin Rivas, Workforce Development Director

SUBJECT: Reports on the Panhandle Workforce Development Area's Grants

Attached are reports that provide the basic information needed to assess how well we served our customers, met performance expectations, and utilized available grant funding during our program year 2021. The period covered in the report is from October 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021.

The charts on page 3-4 provide figures on the workers and families who have utilized services funded through one or more of our grants. These services are delivered through our Workforce Solutions offices and website, which are operated by the Huxford Group LLC under contract with PRPC. Assistance is provided by local staff of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) and Texas Veterans Commission (TVC).

The charts on page 5-8 show the Board's twenty contracted measures. These reports are for the Board Contract year 2021 (BCY21), which began October 2020.

Page 9 provides budget and expenditure data for separate grants, and is broken out into two groups. Shown first are the administrative and operating costs for PRPC and the Huxford Group, including those associated with personnel and facilities. Shown second are training and supportive services costs, which include all payments to participants, employers, training institutions, and vendors providing assistance to eligible clients.

The ratio of expenditures to budgeted funds varied to some extent by grant, but was generally consistent with expectations. Staff will discuss performance and review fiscal variances at the meeting.

Please contact us at (806) 372-3381 or (800) 477-4562 if you have questions or comments.

The grants included in this report are provided to us for different purposes, come with different expectations, and are subject to different rules and regulations. A brief description of each grant follows:

The ***Supplemental Nutrition Assistance/Employment and Training grant*** provides case management and assists recipients of Food Stamps assistance to transition from public assistance to work through participation in work-related activities, including job search and job readiness, education, training activities, and support services. Clients are generally required to participate in one or more of those activities.

The ***Temporary Assistance to Needy Families/Non-Custodial Parent Employment Services grant*** provides case management and assists low-income unemployed or underemployed noncustodial parents who are behind on their child support payments and whose children are current or former recipients of public assistance. Clients are required to participate through a court order in Workforce work-related activities, including job search and job readiness, basic skills training, education, vocational training, and support services.

The ***Temporary Assistance to Needy Families/CHOICES grant*** provides case management and assists applicants, recipients, non-recipient parents, and former recipients of TANF (cash assistance) to transition from welfare to work through participation in work-related activities, including job search and job readiness, basic skills training, education, vocational training, and support services. Parents are generally required to participate in one or more of those activities.

The ***Trade Adjustment Assistance grant*** provides additional training resources and relocation assistance to dislocated workers affected by trade-related layoffs. Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers is a federally funded program, with no costs to employers, that helps workers who are adversely affected by foreign imports or job shifts to a foreign country. Assistance is provided to eligible workers in the form of reemployment services, training, job search, relocation, and support benefits.

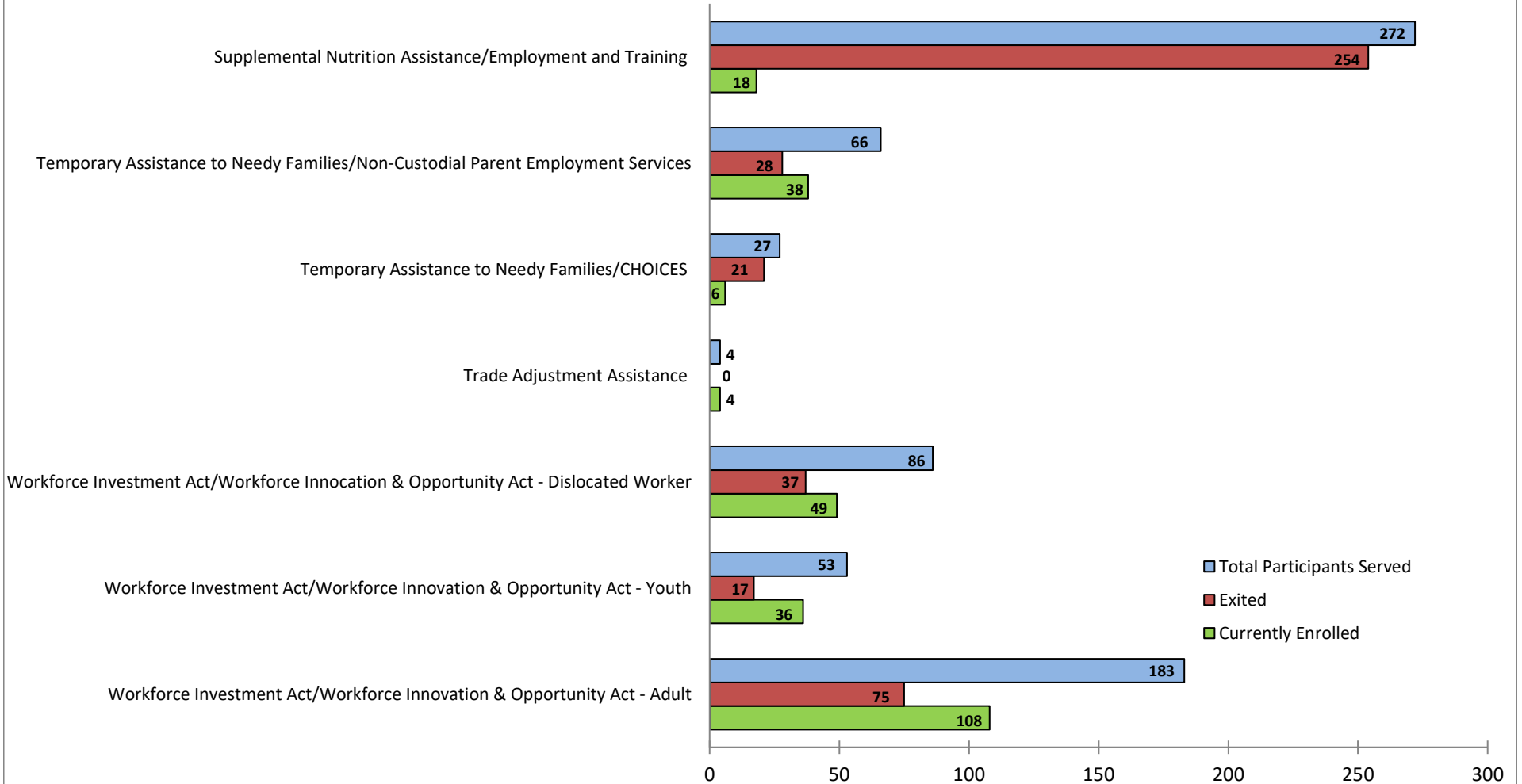
The ***Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act - Adult, Youth, and Dislocated Worker grants*** fund case management, training, job search and placement, and supportive services for eligible clients. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program provides workforce development activities designed to enhance the employability, occupational attainment, retention and earnings of adults, dislocated workers and youth. WIOA improves the quality of the workforce, reduces welfare dependency, and enhances the productivity and competitiveness of the Texas economy.

Our ***Child Care/Formula and Federal Match grants*** fund day care services for children from eligible families. Resources obtained from local contributors are required in order to access matching federal funds. Resources to purchase services for children in foster care are provided through our ***Family and Protective Services grant***. The ***Child Care/Quality Improvement grant*** supports professional development for child care providers and staff. The ***Child Care Automated Attendance*** grant supports systems that link children's attendance to provider payments.

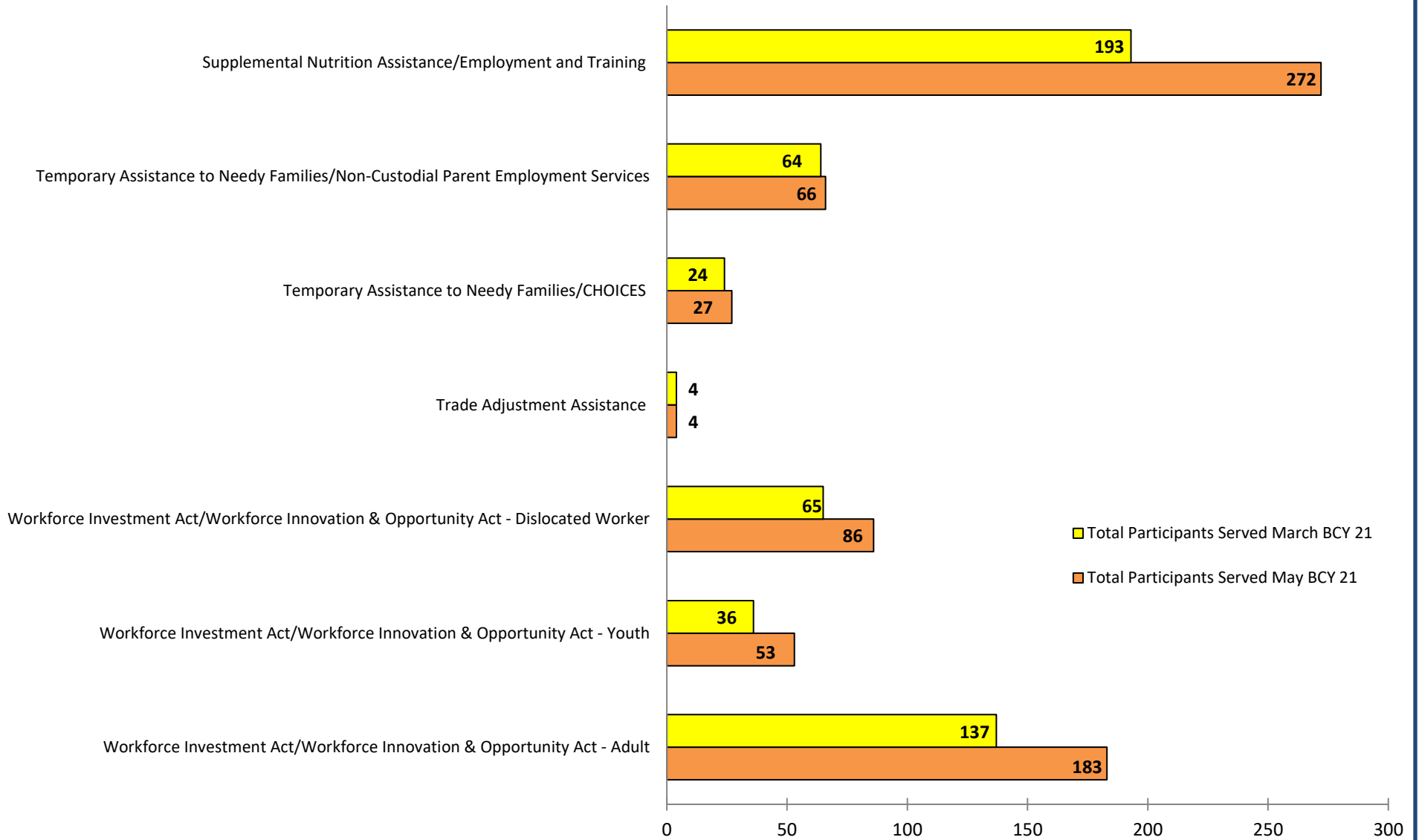
The ***Wagner-Peyser Employment Services, Reemployment Assistance and Veterans Services grants*** pay for costs associated with the TWC and TVC employees who are housed in our facilities. The Employment Service program provides comprehensive recruiting, job search, and related services to businesses and job seekers to connect employers and job seekers. ES coordinates job openings between states and administers the unemployment insurance (UI) work test to verify that individuals receiving UI benefits are registered for work and are actively seeking employment.

Participant Data by Grant

Information on the grants below is for workforce program participants receiving staff-assisted training and/or supportive services.
Participants may be served by more than one grant.



Participant Data by Grant Comparison



BOARD SUMMARY REPORT - CONTRACTED MEASURES

Year-to-Date Performance Periods*

BOARD NAME: PANHANDLE

FINAL RELEASE
As Originally Published 6/24/2021
APRIL 2021 REPORT

Status Summary		With Positive Performance (+P):	Meeting Performance (MP):	With Negative Performance (-P):	% +P & MP
Contracted Measures		8	9	3	85.00%

Source Notes	Measure	Status	% Current Target	Current Target	EOY Target	Current Perf.	Prior Year End	2 Years Ago YE	YTD Num YTD Den	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	From	To
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WIOA Outcome Measures

DOL-C 1	Employed Q2 Post Exit – Adult (DOL)	MP	100.65%	76.50%	76.50%	77.00%	84.80%	79.60%	77 100	68.30%	76.00%	88.20%		7/19	3/20
DOL-C 1	Employed Q4 Post Exit – Adult (DOL)	MP	101.73%	75.10%	75.10%	76.40%	80.40%	77.10%	113 148	81.80%	79.40%	65.90%		1/19	9/19
DOL-C 2	Median Earnings Q2 Post Exit – Adult (DOL)	+P	124.65%	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$8,101.99	\$7,847.09	\$6,356.12	n/a 100	\$6,918.76	\$8,004.28	\$9,742.85		7/19	3/20
DOL-C 1	Credential Rate – Adult (DOL)	+P	114.82%	76.90%	76.90%	88.30%	83.30%	79.40%	106 120	91.40%	82.00%	94.30%		1/19	9/19
DOL-C	Measurable Skills Gains - Adult (DOL)	-P	87.92%	53.80%	53.80%	47.30%	n/a	n/a	78 165	51.00%	68.80%	49.00%	42.70%	7/20	4/21
DOL-C 1	Employed Q2 Post Exit – DW (DOL)	MP	109.62%	82.10%	82.10%	90.00%	80.80%	72.50%	9 10	100.00%	100.00%	83.30%		7/19	3/20
DOL-C 1	Employed Q4 Post Exit – DW (DOL)	+P	121.80%	82.10%	82.10%	100.00%	80.00%	69.60%	12 12	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%		1/19	9/19
DOL-C 2	Median Earnings Q2 Post Exit – DW (DOL)	-P	85.64%	\$8,600.00	\$8,600.00	\$7,364.75	\$9,521.31	\$6,938.79	n/a 10	\$7,227.53	\$7,249.64	\$8,815.66		7/19	3/20
DOL-C 1	Credential Rate – DW (DOL)	+P	114.29%	87.50%	87.50%	100.00%	93.30%	87.50%	3 3	100.00%	100.00%	n/a		1/19	9/19
DOL-C	Measurable Skills Gains - DW (DOL)	MP	93.15%	61.30%	61.30%	57.10%	n/a	n/a	32 56	66.70%	64.50%	57.10%	48.50%	7/20	4/21
DOL-C 3	Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post Exit – Youth (DOL)	MP	99.87%	76.80%	76.80%	76.70%	77.80%	74.70%	33 43	72.70%	76.50%	80.00%		7/19	3/20
DOL-C 3	Employed/Enrolled Q4 Post Exit – Youth (DOL)	+P	122.47%	72.10%	72.10%	88.30%	79.60%	87.50%	53 60	96.40%	81.00%	81.80%		1/19	9/19
DOL-C	Median Earnings Q2 Post Exit – Youth (DOL)	MP	103.06%	\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00	\$3,400.83	\$4,569.77	\$3,163.08	n/a 43	\$5,031.39	\$1,800.60	\$2,263.34		7/19	3/20
DOL-C 3	Credential Rate – Youth (DOL)	+P	130.40%	62.50%	62.50%	81.50%	75.00%	70.00%	22 27	83.30%	62.50%	100.00%		1/19	9/19
DOL-C	Measurable Skills Gains - Youth (DOL)	+P	132.65%	43.80%	43.80%	58.10%	n/a	n/a	25 43	58.10%	56.50%	53.90%	51.90%	7/20	4/21
LBB-K	Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post Exit – C&T Participants	MP	99.39%	65.60%	65.60%	65.20%	72.15%	72.43%	3,963 6,078	70.16%	62.07%	62.79%		7/19	3/20
LBB-K	Employed/Enrolled Q2-Q4 Post Exit – C&T Participants	MP	98.65%	81.70%	81.70%	80.60%	85.72%	85.78%	4,121 5,113	83.00%	80.33%	78.07%		1/19	9/19
LBB-K	Credential Rate – C&T Participants	+P	125.13%	69.40%	69.40%	86.84%	82.84%	74.32%	132 152	89.80%	80.00%	93.02%		1/19	9/19

Note: In some cases historic data not available at time of original publication (such as when a new measure is created) has been added to the MPR retroactively to allow trend analysis.

BOARD SUMMARY REPORT - CONTRACTED MEASURES

Year-to-Date Performance Periods*

BOARD NAME: **PANHANDLE**

FINAL RELEASE
As Originally Published 6/24/2021
APRIL 2021 REPORT

Source Notes	Measure	Status	% Current Target	Current Target	EOY Target	Current Perf.	Prior Year End	2 Years Ago YE	YTD Num YTD Den	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	From	To
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WIOA Outcome Measures

1. TWC has updated the measure logic to incorporate supplemental employment/wage records into the measure calculations. This includes in those instances where the Credential was a HS diploma or equivalent and thus required a second element (employment or Post-Secondary Enrollment within a year of exit) to be in the numerator.
2. TWC is working to update measure logic to incorporate supplemental employment/wage records into the measure calculations. In future MPRs the amounts of quarterly earnings recorded on a supplemental employment/wage record in TWIST be part of the calculation of the median.
3. TWC has updated the measure logic to incorporate supplemental employment/wage records into the measure calculations. This includes in those instances where the credential achieved was a HS diploma or equivalent and thus required a second element (employment or Post-Secondary Enrollment within a year of exit) to be in the numerator.

Reemployment and Employer Engagement Measures

TWC 4	Claimant Reemployment within 10 Weeks	MP	102.21%	64.23%	64.23%	65.65%	63.80%	68.44%	1,097 1,671	99.48%	62.42%	57.58%		7/20	1/21
TWC	# of Employers Receiving Workforce Assistance	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,073	n/a	2,063	2,750	---	n/a	n/a	n/a		10/20	4/21

4. The Commission adopted BCY21 targets on Claimant Reemployment within 10 Weeks that will apply to claimants whose 10 Week Start Date is Jan 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021.

Program Participation Measures

TWC 5	Avg # Children Served Per Day - Combined	-P	83.87%	2,064	2,064	1,731	2,160	2,243	263,076 152	1,630	1,756	1,958		10/20	4/21
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5. TWC took a number of actions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on child care providers and families and to ensure the availability of child care for working parents in Texas. Some of these actions resulted in a increased costs of care. In addition, many families suspended care during the summer. The system began ramping enrollment back up but has not yet reached the level of enrollment expected because it takes several months to accomplish this.

Note: In some cases historic data not available at time of original publication (such as when a new measure is created) has been added to the MPR retroactively to allow trend analysis.

AT-A-GLANCE COMPARISON - BOARD CONTRACTED MEASURES

Percent of Target (Year-to-Date Performance Periods)

FINAL RELEASE
As Originally Published 6/24/2021
APRIL 2021 REPORT

Green = +P White = MP Yellow = MP but At Risk Red = -P

Board	WIOA Outcome Measures														
	Adult					DW					Youth				
	Employed Q2 Post-Exit	Employed Q4 Post-Exit	Median Earnings Q2 Post-Exit	Credential Rate	Measurable Skills Gains (YTD-Only)	Employed Q2 Post-Exit	Employed Q4 Post-Exit	Median Earnings Q2 Post-Exit	Credential Rate	Measurable Skills Gains (YTD-Only)	Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post-Exit	Employed/Enrolled Q4 Post-Exit	Median Earnings Q2 Post-Exit	Credential Rate	Measurable Skills Gains (YTD-Only)
Alamo	91.13%	109.57%	103.47%	112.35%	82.74%	84.69%	105.66%	109.79%	117.10%	98.78%	91.89%	111.16%	84.53%	179.65%	141.50%
Borderplex	107.14%	120.21%	125.51%	111.93%	97.70%	106.39%	98.26%	72.43%	116.88%	112.15%	85.43%	92.58%	85.04%	70.02%	66.25%
Brazos Valley	102.78%	100.68%	90.17%	62.23%	137.12%	79.03%	96.22%	110.79%	68.39%	144.08%	96.71%	122.88%	100.79%	184.62%	54.82%
Cameron	108.63%	108.47%	106.06%	106.05%	88.83%	113.01%	122.03%	101.52%	112.66%	164.68%	103.36%	118.96%	123.10%	162.69%	134.52%
Capital Area	109.74%	116.55%	177.03%	109.92%	117.33%	95.41%	108.16%	149.48%	97.03%	98.23%	91.28%	121.28%	108.14%	129.92%	72.60%
Central Texas	92.03%	111.21%	175.90%	112.09%	52.82%	76.79%	95.98%	127.63%	102.90%	29.83%	87.37%	123.20%	83.33%	133.28%	19.86%
Coastal Bend	92.57%	105.42%	116.85%	85.63%	100.00%	99.86%	101.04%	117.52%	79.43%	58.37%	95.62%	115.96%	86.69%	96.14%	65.00%
Concho Valley	110.87%	102.30%	96.53%	96.33%	100.00%	85.43%	111.48%	131.26%	106.63%	110.61%	80.47%	133.65%	128.38%	206.32%	250.00%
Dallas	83.85%	104.04%	112.59%	100.27%	113.28%	89.43%	101.15%	104.18%	112.93%	118.37%	95.25%	114.29%	80.82%	124.32%	88.71%
Deep East	118.86%	106.85%	84.85%	104.22%	79.57%	87.35%	115.75%	91.70%	95.81%	68.60%	110.37%	121.96%	73.85%	151.85%	123.20%
East Texas	91.11%	104.49%	81.52%	95.58%	45.45%	91.45%	101.42%	52.94%	86.51%	42.41%	92.97%	113.67%	104.56%	175.44%	136.50%
Golden Crescent	113.74%	119.74%	105.16%	113.04%	86.22%	93.65%	99.75%	76.61%	129.86%	116.53%	90.10%	100.83%	149.17%	53.28%	145.60%
Gulf Coast	93.05%	105.42%	77.27%	83.95%	92.58%	87.21%	98.13%	96.68%	87.57%	111.84%	90.49%	111.22%	90.51%	103.81%	179.92%
Heart of Texas	106.54%	105.61%	118.93%	53.33%	91.43%	95.24%	91.35%	145.46%	81.57%	84.49%	84.05%	110.04%	65.00%	101.13%	61.39%
Lower Rio	106.46%	103.15%	85.48%	102.90%	187.05%	109.23%	107.26%	131.42%	100.94%	74.87%	93.18%	104.93%	75.51%	134.04%	102.50%
Middle Rio	108.89%	110.86%	110.45%	105.76%	52.29%	96.04%	107.80%	84.47%	124.29%	150.41%	101.30%	135.39%	118.77%	n/a	41.51%
North Central	92.84%	108.78%	111.11%	113.91%	86.68%	83.80%	94.32%	112.59%	108.29%	94.90%	100.90%	113.42%	106.62%	106.62%	138.44%
North East	108.24%	109.13%	100.68%	88.63%	143.63%	98.59%	91.51%	84.93%	130.43%	174.29%	119.53%	135.59%	129.81%	139.13%	160.00%
North Texas	91.50%	65.19%	37.47%	60.46%	162.42%	58.28%	106.81%	0.00%	142.86%	72.45%	123.47%	102.00%	123.29%	162.07%	240.00%
Panhandle	100.65%	101.73%	124.65%	114.82%	87.92%	109.62%	121.80%	85.64%	114.29%	93.15%	99.87%	122.47%	103.06%	130.40%	132.65%
Permian Basin	100.58%	109.37%	99.38%	114.68%	93.89%	84.38%	102.94%	104.12%	93.05%	95.10%	76.56%	124.83%	86.10%	272.98%	59.50%
Rural Capital	93.33%	108.40%	122.10%	108.59%	49.27%	92.83%	97.30%	88.90%	97.94%	102.04%	98.05%	115.53%	159.88%	122.72%	66.90%
South Plains	106.83%	112.91%	114.40%	112.85%	89.97%	89.63%	110.72%	141.70%	114.29%	73.74%	97.66%	123.30%	157.73%	96.00%	60.80%
South Texas	113.16%	108.61%	62.78%	117.78%	86.36%	103.35%	118.69%	90.95%	114.29%	120.88%	85.94%	108.32%	77.04%	108.10%	81.02%
Southeast	101.68%	102.57%	102.69%	136.39%	87.77%	100.54%	104.13%	136.82%	114.29%	56.12%	98.39%	102.24%	61.55%	200.35%	118.00%
Tarrant	98.13%	106.30%	109.88%	100.69%	57.28%	100.41%	101.94%	109.67%	105.25%	93.27%	101.84%	112.37%	73.63%	224.83%	144.00%
Texoma	111.11%	122.56%	106.83%	106.55%	74.82%	0.00%	121.80%	n/a	114.29%	90.70%	85.32%	113.18%	134.11%	84.96%	125.11%
West Central	98.04%	107.91%	134.57%	112.08%	93.67%	106.88%	94.76%	127.95%	95.20%	71.62%	102.15%	121.94%	103.88%	95.79%	45.50%
+P	5	7	12	11	6	1	7	11	13	10	3	22	9	17	14
MP	22	20	10	11	7	15	21	8	10	8	18	6	7	7	1
-P	1	1	6	6	15	12	0	8	5	10	7	0	12	3	13
% MP & +P	96%	96%	79%	79%	46%	57%	100%	70%	82%	64%	75%	100%	57%	89%	54%
From	7/19	1/19	7/19	1/19	7/20	7/19	1/19	7/19	1/19	7/20	7/19	1/19	7/19	1/19	7/20
To	3/20	9/19	3/20	9/19	4/21	3/20	9/19	3/20	9/19	4/21	3/20	9/19	3/20	9/19	4/21

Percent of Target (Year-to-Date Performance Periods)

Green = +P White = MP Yellow = MP but At Risk Red = -P

Board	WIOA Outcome Measures (cont.)			Reemployment and Employer Engagement		Participation	Total Measures			
	C&T Participants			Claimant ReEmployment within 10 Weeks	Employers Receiving Workforce Assistance	Average # Children Served Per Day-Combined	+P	MP	-P	% MP & +P
	Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post-Exit	Employed/Enrolled Q2-Q4 Post-Exit	Credential Rate							
Alamo	93.08%	99.50%	99.25%	102.89%	112.44%	98.60%	6	11	4	81%
Borderplex	91.65%	97.58%	96.69%	104.33%	115.31%	72.83%	6	8	7	67%
Brazos Valley	89.88%	94.44%	64.70%	101.88%	144.74%	94.20%	6	7	8	62%
Cameron	98.11%	94.83%	120.42%	101.99%	122.91%	91.12%	10	8	3	86%
Capital Area	97.58%	100.45%	104.87%	102.62%	109.83%	79.41%	7	12	2	90%
Central Texas	91.10%	98.35%	107.06%	104.41%	112.67%	82.48%	8	5	8	62%
Coastal Bend	86.63%	96.60%	68.08%	102.16%	118.72%	88.86%	4	9	8	62%
Concho Valley	101.11%	98.37%	106.50%	101.64%	105.86%	84.39%	10	8	3	86%
Dallas	91.36%	97.49%	113.95%	117.22%	112.74%	89.20%	9	6	6	71%
Deep East	89.74%	96.48%	108.66%	102.55%	156.77%	88.74%	8	6	7	67%
East Texas	87.53%	98.00%	93.44%	107.09%	111.61%	83.20%	5	8	8	62%
Golden Crescent	102.79%	100.62%	128.08%	102.50%	103.59%	79.19%	8	9	4	81%
Gulf Coast	86.10%	92.39%	83.31%	103.00%	127.19%	85.01%	4	9	8	62%
Heart of Texas	99.25%	96.50%	80.59%	104.86%	112.90%	78.91%	4	9	8	62%
Lower Rio	98.96%	91.00%	113.86%	103.92%	107.24%	79.71%	5	11	5	76%
Middle Rio	93.54%	90.09%	121.12%	103.44%	129.50%	82.60%	8	6	6	70%
North Central	87.33%	100.56%	100.13%	108.30%	116.70%	81.69%	7	10	4	81%
North East	97.07%	97.87%	112.65%	103.97%	98.45%	105.71%	10	9	2	90%
North Texas	99.50%	97.42%	126.08%	103.75%	107.36%	75.94%	8	6	7	67%
Panhandle	99.39%	98.65%	125.13%	102.21%	100.94%	83.87%	8	10	3	86%
Permian Basin	89.77%	90.23%	110.73%	100.93%	107.86%	76.49%	5	9	7	67%
Rural Capital	97.44%	103.30%	113.63%	105.39%	136.70%	101.19%	7	11	3	86%
South Plains	94.60%	96.30%	121.79%	103.62%	120.59%	96.19%	10	6	5	76%
South Texas	90.17%	91.87%	141.27%	102.65%	116.78%	73.23%	7	6	8	62%
Southeast	95.56%	92.84%	107.19%	101.89%	123.59%	98.21%	7	10	4	81%
Tarrant	93.11%	99.24%	109.52%	160.79%	98.95%	83.92%	5	12	4	81%
Texoma	94.76%	100.20%	115.68%	104.67%	108.89%	107.32%	10	5	5	75%
West Central	91.10%	97.04%	105.43%	102.48%	106.23%	95.09%	6	12	3	86%
+P	0	0	19	5	24	2	198			
MP	11	20	4	23	4	5	238			
-P	17	8	5	0	0	21	150			
% MP & +P	39%	71%	82%	100%	100%	25%	74%			
From	7/19	1/19	1/19	7/20	10/20	10/20	From			
To	3/20	9/19	9/19	1/21	4/21	4/21	To			

REPORT ON THE PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA'S
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR THE PERIOD
OCTOBER 1, 2020 - MAY 31, 2021

Panhandle YTD May 2021 Report									
	Administration and Service Delivery Costs			Training and Support			Total		
	Total Budgeted	Total Expended	Percent Expended	Total Budgeted	Total Expended	Percent Expended	Total Budgeted	Total Expended	Percent Expended
GRANTS PROVIDING SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME ADULTS/YOUTH AND DISLOCATED WORKERS									
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Adult	570,735	322,654	57%	365,000	249,086	68%	935,735	571,740	61%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Youth	435,528	201,555	46%	150,000	61,337	41%	585,528	262,892	45%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/DLW	516,236	321,388	62%	95,000	30,606	32%	611,236	351,974	58%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Rapid Response	15,000	2,547	17%	-	-	0%	15,000	2,547	17%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Alternative Funding	105,963	79,510	75%	-	-	0%	105,963	79,510	75%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/ National Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grant	275,000	107,108	39%	350,000	266,692	0%	625,000	373,800	60%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/COVID-19 Response-Rapid Response	15,000	-	0%	-	-	0%	15,000	-	0%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/COVID-19 Response	22,112	24,471	111%	21,000	19,535	0%	43,112	44,006	102%
Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment	132,175	116,105	88%	-	-	0%	132,175	116,105	88%
Trade Adjustment Assistance	1,000	-	0%	18,500	11,782	64%	19,500	11,782	60%
GRANTS PROVIDING SERVICES TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS, NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS AND OFFENDERS									
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families/CHOICES	1,003,962	619,075	62%	25,000	8,664	35%	1,028,962	627,739	61%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families/CHOICES - Summer Youth	-	-	0%	80,000	-	0%	80,000	-	0%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families/Non-Custodial Parent: Employment Service	144,810	107,428	74%	13,000	4,725	36%	157,810	112,154	71%
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance/Employment and Training	312,473	193,308	62%	20,000	11,219	56%	332,473	204,527	62%
GRANTS PROVIDING CHILD CARE SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS									
Child Care/Formula and Match	1,947,080	1,330,145	68%	10,050,880	5,907,741	59%	11,997,960	7,237,886	60%
Child Care Formula - 25% Supplemental Payment	1,709,154	1,477,391	86%	-	-	0%	1,709,154	1,477,391	86%
Child Care Quality Improvement	296,193	193,038	65%	208,294	85,707	41%	504,487	278,744	55%
CCP - Family and Protective Services	-	-	0%	1,500,000	641,682	43%	1,500,000	641,682	43%
Child Care/ Automated Attendance	98,802	39,490	40%	-	-	0%	98,802	39,490	40%
GRANTS PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR WORKFORCE CENTER OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES									
Wagner-Peyser Employment Service	128,361	100,579	78%	-	-	0%	128,361	100,579	78%
Wagner-Peyser Employment Service TANF	16,390	7,721	47%	-	-	0%	16,390	7,721	47%
Veterans Employment Service	10,700	3,179	30%	-	-	0%	10,700	3,179	30%
GRANTS PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION SPECIAL INITIATIVES AND OTHER PROJECTS									
Workforce Commission Initiatives Grant - Foster Care Youth Conference	1,212	-	0%	-	-	0%	1,212	-	0%
Workforce Commission Initiatives Grant - Texas Veterans Leadership Program	5,686	1,572	28%	-	-	0%	5,686	1,572	28%
Workforce Commission Initiatives Grant - Youth Career Fairs	42,152	40,878	97%	-	-	0%	42,152	40,878	97%
Workforce Commission Initiatives Grant - Hiring Red, White and You!	1,400	480	34%	-	-	0%	1,400	480	34%
Workforce Commission Initiatives Grant - Retail Data Analysis	2,000	2,000	100%	-	-	0%	2,000	2,000	100%
Workforce Commission Initiatives Grant - Rural Service Delivery	4,882	1,380	28%	-	-	0%	4,882	1,380	28%
Yr Round Work Experience	112,500	32,945	29%	-	-	0%	112,500	32,945	29%
Hireability Navigator	100,000	69,686	70%	-	-	0%	100,000	69,686	70%
Infrastructure Support Services Contract	551,382	-	0%	-	-	0%	551,382	-	0%
High Demand Job Training	149,901	149,810	100%	-	-	0%	149,901	149,810	100%
Skills Development Fund COVID Special Initiative	36,500	37,716	103%	223,000	140,935	63%	259,500	178,651	69%
TOTAL	8,764,288	5,583,141	64%	13,119,674	7,439,710	57%	21,883,963	13,022,851	60%



ITEM 7



MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 21, 2021

TO: Panhandle Workforce Development Board

FROM: Marin Rivas, Workforce Development Director

SUBJECT: Report on Monitoring Reviews

In its role as administrative and fiscal agent for the Panhandle Workforce Development Board (PWDB), the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) is required to oversee administration, fiscal, and program monitoring for the delivery of Workforce Development Services and Child Care Services, under the Panhandle Workforce Development Area (PWDA) Service Delivery System Contract.

Fiscal and Program Monitoring activities conducted by Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), the external fiscal monitor, and the Board's internal program monitor include: reviewing records and supporting documentation, reporting the results of those reviews, and providing recommendations for actions to resolve instances of non-compliance with Service Delivery System Contract requirements.

The TWC Financial Manual for Grants and Contracts requires a Board to assess its workforce and child care contractors to ensure that the providers meet the requirements of a Board's Fiscal Integrity Review based on the following schedule:

- Contracts under \$100,000—the fiscal indicators must be verified prior to the award of the contract and at each renewal of the contract;
- Contracts between \$100,000 and \$500,000—the fiscal indicators must be verified prior to the award of the contract, at each renewal of the contract, and not less than biennially; and
- Contracts over \$500,000—the fiscal indicators must be verified prior to the award of the contract, at each renewal of the contract, and not less than once annually.

The Fiscal Integrity Review includes the following provisions for ensuring that workforce and child care service providers are meeting performance measures in compliance with requirements contained in:

- Federal and state statutes, regulations and directives of the Agency; and
- Any other safeguards the Board has identified that are designed to ensure the proper and effective use of funds placed under the control of its workforce service providers.

The scope of the Fiscal Integrity Review includes an evaluation of the following areas for the contract renewal:

- Audit;
- Any adverse judgments or findings, such as administrative audit findings, Agency or Board monitor findings, or sanctions by the Board or court of law;
- Insurance;
- Prior Financial Monitoring Reviews; and
- Prior three-year financial history.

As part of the PWDA's Fiscal Monitoring contract with Christine Nguyen, a Fiscal Integrity Review was conducted to satisfy performance of the new contract that is being considered to comply with the 40 TAC §802.21. Board staff will report the results during the Board meeting.

The following detailed report lists updated statuses for the reviews of the current Workforce Solutions Panhandle (WSP) sub-recipient Huxford Group, LLC's service delivery since the last report provided to the Board at the May 2021 meeting including information of upcoming scheduled reviews.

REPORT ON THE PWDA'S MONITORING REVIEWS

March 2021 – July 2021

Workforce Development and Child Care Services Program Monitoring Conducted by Internal Monitor – Kathy Cabezuela, Program Specialist			
Monitoring Review	Date of review	Period Covered	Status
Program Operating Systems	March 2021 – May 2021	October 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020	All items resolved

Administration of Fiscal and Program Control Monitoring Conducted by Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)			
Monitoring Review	Date of review	Period Covered	Status
Fiscal and Program Operating Systems	March 29, 2021 – April 2, 2021	February 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021	Pending

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Conducted by Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)			
Monitoring Review	Date of review	Period Covered	Status
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) in Texas	May 2021	Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021	No findings

Administration of Sub-recipient Monitoring Conducted by Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)			
Monitoring Review	Date of review	Period Covered	Status
National Dislocated Worker (NDW) Grant	July 6, 2021 – July 9, 2021	May 5, 2020 – April 30, 2021	Pending

Administration of Fiscal Control Monitoring Conducted by External Monitor – Christine H. Nguyen, CPA			
Monitoring Review	Date of review	Contract Period	Status
Fiscal Integrity Review	July 2021	October 2021 – September 2022	TBA
Fiscal Risk Assessment	July 2021	October 2020 – September 2021	Ongoing

*Please note; text above that is in blue font designates updated information from the previous reports.



ITEM 10



STATE LEGISLATION UPDATE

June 28, 2021

Items added since last Update denoted in red

** TAWB public comments*

Child Care

HB 619 – Rep. Senfronia Thompson

Relating to developing a strategic plan to support the child-care workforce. Would require TWC to develop a strategic plan that would include recommendations for local workforce development boards to improve, sustain, and support the child-care workforce; and best practices from local workforce development boards in this state and other programs designed to support child-care workers. The strategic plan also is intended to support the childcare workforce that includes reporting and making recommendations to diminish gender and racial disparity, continue to educate current and future workers through a variety of different programs, to reduce turnover, and increase opportunities for development. It also adds requirement for convening a workgroup consisting of relevant stakeholders to assist TWC in developing the strategic plan.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

SB 1555 -- Sen. Zaffirini

Relating to establishing reimbursement rates for certain child-care providers participating in the subsidized child-care program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission. Would require each board to equalize the amount that child-care providers providing care to children in the same commission age group receive based on the maximum number of children the provider may enroll under the child-to-caregiver ratios and group sizes adopted by the Health and Human Services Commission.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

HB 1792 – Rep. Button (TWC Legislation)

Relating to the evaluation of child-care providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program. Would require TWC to select a single entity to oversee a statewide roster of qualified assessors to evaluate child-care providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program during the initial certification process and when a provider applies for a higher level of certification.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

HB 2607 – Rep. Talarico

Relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Workforce Commission and local workforce development boards regarding the provision of child care and the subsidized child care program. Would add an entry level rating for child-care providers to participate in the Texas Rising Star program and require TWC to assess the number of 3-star and 4-star rated child-care providers participating in partnerships with public school districts and public charter schools. Would require each local workforce development board to inform the local school districts and open-enrollment charter schools in the workforce development area regarding opportunities to partner with child-care providers in the board's area to expand access to and provide facilities for prekindergarten programs. Would also permit a local workforce development board to allow a child care provider with whom the board contracts to identify and refer to the board children who could be eligible for subsidized child care services.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

College Credit

HB 700 – Rep’s Johnson, Jarvis

Relating to the eligibility of foster children to receive college credit for completing the Preparation for Adult Living Program.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

SB 1277 – Sen. West

Relating to an agreement between a school district and public institution of higher education to provide a dual credit program to high school students enrolled in the district. Would require that at least one employee of a school district or institution be designated as responsible for providing academic advising to a student who enrolls in a dual credit course under the program before the student begins the course.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately

Corrections

HB 2352 – Rep. Parker

Relating to an educational and vocational training pilot program for certain state jail felony defendants and certain inmates released on parole; changing parole eligibility.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate as amended, Filed without the Governor's signature, Effective 9/1/21

Certifications, Credentials

HB 3938* -- Rep. Keith Bell

Relating to the establishment of the industry-based certification advisory council and the transfer of certain duties to that advisory council. Establishes the industry-based certification advisory council to better align career and technology education programs with current and future workforce needs of every community and region in Texas. The advisory council would include members representing employers, career and technology educators, and public junior colleges from across the state. On an annual basis, the advisory council would be charged with developing and revising the inventory of industry-based certifications that may be earned by high school students through career and technology courses. The Texas Workforce Commission would provide agency support (within existing resources), and the task force may coordinate with local workforce boards, the Texas Workforce Investment Council, the Economic Development and Tourism Division of the Governor's Office, and the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately

People with Disabilities

HB 2256 – Rep. Guerra

Relating to creating a bilingual special education certification to teach students of limited English proficiency with disabilities.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

Education – Community Colleges

SB 1102 -- Sen. Creighton

Relating to the establishment of the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) Initiative to support workforce education at public junior colleges. Would establish program for Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to award grants to public junior colleges for creating, redesigning, or expanding workforce training programs that lead to postsecondary industry certifications or other workforce credentials required for high-demand occupations.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately

SB 1230 – Sen. Taylor

Relating to establishing the Texas Commission on Community College Finance. There have been calls to consider updating the funding of public junior colleges in Texas, as the current funding formula has not been updated in almost 50 years. S.B. 1230 seeks to address these calls by creating the Texas Commission on Community College Finance to study and make recommendations for the funding of public junior colleges to the 88th Legislature.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective Immediately

Education – Higher

SB 959 – Sen. Zaffirini

Relating to student success-based funding recommendations for certain continuing workforce education courses offered by public junior colleges. Would add language to add qualified continuing workforce education courses offered by colleges for which credit toward a certificate or associate 's degree is not awarded in appropriations recommendations.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

HB 4361 – Rep. Raney

Relating to off-campus workforce education or lower-division programs offered by a public institution of higher education at the request of an employer. Would allow employers when seeking to collaborate with a higher education partner to serve their needs, a community or junior college could have the first right of refusal to meet those needs. If the community college is unwilling or unable, local employers should be able to invite competing higher education and workforce training providers to partner.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate; Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately

SB 788 – Sen.'s Creighton | Powell

Relating to the development of a model data-sharing agreement for sharing student information between public schools and public and private postsecondary educational institutions. The purpose of S.B. 788 is to direct the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Texas Education Agency, and Texas Workforce Commission, to develop and make available model FERPA-compliant data-sharing agreements for voluntary use by school systems and postsecondary institutions. This will streamline the current administrative burden of having to negotiate varying legal definitions of FERPA. Guiding principles of data use and how FERPA should be interpreted would streamline inefficiencies and allow for stronger information sharing.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House; Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

Education – Primary & Secondary

HB 572 – Rep. Dutton

Relating to authorizing a dropout recovery competency-based educational pilot program provided through a campus or campus program charter or open-enrollment charter school.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately

SB 179 -- Sen. Lucio

Relating to the use of public school counselors' work time. Would require school counselors' work time must be 80% on counseling.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

HB 773 – Rep. VanDeaver

Relating to indicators of achievement under the public school accountability system. Seeks to align state indicators with federal indicators, giving credit to campuses and districts that offer programs of study leading to industry-based certification and work-based learning, and to incentivize other districts to offer more of these programs, by creating an indicator of achievement under the public school accountability system for students who successfully complete a CTE program of study.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate, Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately

SB 560 – Sen. Lucio

Relating to developing a strategic plan for the improvement and expansion of high-quality bilingual education.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately

TANF/SNAP

SB 770 -- Sen. Hughes

Relating to eligibility for job-training programs provided under the self-sufficiency fund. Amends the Labor Code to expand the eligibility for job-training programs provided under the self-sufficiency fund from certain TANF recipients to any individuals who are identified by rule of the Texas Workforce Commission as being low-income or at risk of becoming dependent on public assistance benefits.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

SB 346 -- Sen. Paxton

Relating to the participation of open-enrollment charter schools in the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.

Status: Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately

HB 1247 – Rep. Lozano

Relating to the development of and report on a tri-agency work-based learning strategic framework by the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The bill requires each agency to appoint an existing agency employee to lead the development of the framework.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

HB 3767* – Rep.s Murphy | Oliverson | Raney

Relating to measures to support workforce development in the state, including the establishment of the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative and additional employer workforce data reporting. Will make permanent the temporary “Tri-Agency Initiative,” which is the collaborative work of the Texas Education Agency, Texas Workforce Commission, and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. With this new law, these agencies will work together to:

- Identify statewide workforce goals, including attainment of self-sufficient wage jobs.
- Designate career pathways for occupations aligned with current workforce needs and for forecasted, high growth careers and skills.
- Evaluate career education and training programs across Texas based on the workforce outcomes of program participants to ensure transparency and accountability in how the state spends its workforce dollars.

The three agencies will also modernize their data systems to better serve all Texans, including: a) creating tools that enable average Texans to evaluate workforce programs; b) building a platform to provide students with information on employment outcomes and earning potential for possible career pathways; and c) creating and making public an easily accessible and unified dashboard with data on the state’s progress toward meeting its workforce development goals.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21

Veterans

HB 33 – Rep. Dominguez

Relating to measures to facilitate the award of postsecondary course credit leading to workforce credentialing based on military experience, education, and training. Amends the Education Code to require the TWC to evaluate programs of study or courses offered by career schools or colleges leading to industry-based certifications or other workforce credentials and identify the programs or courses for which skills obtained through military experience, education, and training frequently align.

Status: Passed House, Passed Senate, Signed by the Governor, Effective Immediately

HB 626 – Rep. Rosenthal

Relating to the expansion of the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant Program to include certain nonprofit organizations providing job training to veterans.

Status: *Passed House, Passed Senate w/Amendments, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21*

SB 337 – Sen. Powell

Relating to the award of grants by the Texas Workforce Commission to facilitate the participation of certain veterans and military personnel in apprenticeship training programs.

Status: *Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21*

Work-based Learning

SB 1094 – Sen. Creighton

Relating to the payment of apprenticeship education expenses using the state's programs for paying, prepaying, or saving toward the costs of attending an institution of higher education. Allows students to use their 529 accounts to pay for apprenticeship programs and qualified expenses.

Status: *Passed Senate, Passed House as amended, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 9/1/21*

SB 1095 – Sen. Creighton

Relating to notice regarding the availability to public school students of college credit and work-based education programs and subsidies for fees paid to take certain advanced placement tests. Would require school districts to notify the parent of each district student enrolled in grade nine or above of the availability of career and technology education programs or other work-based education programs, including any internship, externship, or apprenticeship programs or a P-TECH program.

Status: *Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective immediately*

SB 1524 – Sen. Hughes

Relating to a sales and use tax refund pilot program for certain persons who employ apprentices. The measure will allow for a \$2,500 sales tax refund for each apprentice hired. Also, the bill will ensure that at least half of all approved apprenticeship tax refunds will go to employers who create programs in emerging fields, rural regions, with aged-out foster youth, women, veterans, and others, that would maximize the program's benefits.

Status: *Passed Senate, Passed House, Signed by the Governor, Effective on 1/1/22*

Texas Unemployment Rate falls to 6.5 percent in May

Date: June 18, 2021

Media Contact: James Bernsen

Phone: 512-463-8556

State adds 34,400 jobs over the month

AUSTIN — In May, the seasonally adjusted Texas unemployment rate was 6.5 percent, down 0.2 percentage points from April 2021. Texas added 34,400 total nonagricultural jobs over the month, making gains in 12 of the last 13 months. Texas added a total of 804,200 jobs since May 2020.

"Texas employers continue to add jobs, strengthening our economy and creating opportunities for Texas workers to connect to a rewarding career," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "Job seekers can access skills enhancement resources to prepare for these newly created jobs via our local Workforce Solutions partners and through TX.metrixlearning.com."

In May, the Leisure and Hospitality industry added 14,200 jobs, having recovered 264,100 jobs since May 2020. Professional and Business Services increased by 13,800 positions. Also of note, Manufacturing employment gained 3,200 jobs over the month.

"Continued job expansion and a decreasing unemployment rate are great news for Texas" workforce," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. "TWC is here to continue providing job seekers with resources like career fairs, hiring events at local workforce boards and job matching services through MyTXCareer.com to connect Texans with employment opportunities."

The Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) recorded May's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a not seasonally adjusted rate of 3.9 percent, followed by the Austin-Round Rock MSA at 4.2 percent and the College Station-Bryan MSA at 4.5 percent.

"Texas employers have been open for business and excited about getting Texans back to work," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson. "Employers across the state have made innovative changes to their businesses over the past year, all to ensure their survival and to create a safe environment for their employees as well as their customers."

Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit TexasLMI.com.

The Texas Labor Market & Career Information Data for June is scheduled to be released on Friday, July 16, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. (CDT).

Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas Not Seasonally Adjusted (In Thousands)

	May 2021				April 2021				May 2020			
	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate	C.L.F.	Emp.	Unemp.	Rate
United States	160,607.0	151,778.0	8,829.0	5.5	160,379.0	151,160.0	9,220.0	5.7	157,975.0	137,461.0	20,514.0	13.0
Texas	14,061.2	13,232.0	829.3	5.9	14,060.9	13,163.0	897.9	6.4	13,550.0	11,957.1	1,592.8	11.8
Abilene	79.1	75.4	3.6	4.6	78.7	74.9	3.8	4.9	74.5	68.4	6.1	8.2
Amarillo	133.7	128.5	5.2	3.9	133.2	127.7	5.5	4.1	126.9	117.3	9.6	7.5
Austin-Round Rock	1,272.2	1,218.1	54.0	4.2	1,270.1	1,211.6	58.5	4.6	1,190.3	1,066.5	123.8	10.4
Beaumont-Port Arthur	173.9	157.2	16.8	9.6	173.0	155.5	17.5	10.1	168.4	140.7	27.6	16.4
Brownsville-Harlingen	168.8	154.1	14.7	8.7	170.1	154.3	15.8	9.3	165.1	141.6	23.6	14.3
College Station-Bryan	133.2	127.3	5.9	4.5	132.4	126.2	6.2	4.7	127.2	116.8	10.4	8.2
Corpus Christi	201.9	186.9	15.1	7.5	202.3	186.0	16.3	8.1	197.6	171.3	26.3	13.3
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	4,029.5	3,816.2	213.2	5.3	4,020.1	3,788.6	231.5	5.8	3,844.6	3,406.1	438.5	11.4
Dallas-Plano-Irving MD	2,722.8	2,580.7	142.1	5.2	2,714.8	2,560.5	154.3	5.7	2,591.9	2,298.9	293.0	11.3

Fort Worth-Arlington MD	1,306.7	1,235.5	71.2	5.4	1,305.3	1,228.0	77.2	5.9	1,252.7	1,107.2	145.5	11.6
El Paso	366.0	342.6	23.4	6.4	366.6	341.0	25.7	7.0	355.4	308.4	47.1	13.2
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	3,405.6	3,180.7	224.9	6.6	3,401.3	3,155.9	245.4	7.2	3,336.4	2,902.3	434.2	13.0
Killeen-Temple	179.6	169.2	10.4	5.8	179.3	168.4	10.9	6.1	171.1	154.3	16.9	9.9
Laredo	114.5	106.9	7.7	6.7	114.8	106.6	8.2	7.2	112.8	98.1	14.7	13.1
Longview	95.7	89.4	6.2	6.5	95.9	89.3	6.7	7.0	93.0	82.6	10.4	11.1
Lubbock	163.5	155.9	7.6	4.7	163.8	155.6	8.2	5.0	154.5	141.2	13.3	8.6
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	359.9	324.9	35.0	9.7	363.7	325.4	38.4	10.5	353.4	296.7	56.7	16.0
Midland	98.0	91.9	6.1	6.2	98.4	91.7	6.8	6.9	97.0	85.1	11.9	12.3
Odessa	78.2	71.1	7.1	9.1	78.9	70.9	7.9	10.1	81.4	68.5	13.0	15.9
San Angelo	54.7	51.9	2.7	5.0	54.6	51.6	2.9	5.3	52.5	47.5	5.0	9.5
San Antonio-New Braunfels	1,213.9	1,150.1	63.9	5.3	1,220.0	1,151.0	69.0	5.7	1,154.7	1,016.9	137.8	11.9
Sherman-Denison	64.9	61.9	3.0	4.7	64.9	61.8	3.1	4.8	61.5	56.1	5.4	8.8

Texarkana	64.3	60.7	3.6	5.7	64.0	60.2	3.8	5.9	62.1	55.8	6.3	10.1
Tyler	111.6	105.8	5.8	5.2	110.2	104.0	6.3	5.7	105.7	94.8	10.9	10.3
Victoria	44.2	41.3	2.9	6.6	44.2	41.0	3.1	7.1	42.9	37.9	5.1	11.8
Waco	129.0	122.4	6.6	5.1	129.3	122.6	6.7	5.2	122.4	111.5	10.9	8.9
Wichita Falls	64.1	60.7	3.4	5.3	63.9	60.3	3.6	5.6	61.5	56.0	5.6	9.0

Texas Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Seasonally Adjusted

INDUSTRY TITLE	May 2021*	Apr 2021	May 2020	Apr '21 to May '21		May '20 to May '21	
				Absolute Change	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Percent Change
Total Nonagricultural	12,560,900	12,526,500	11,756,700	34,400	0.3	804,200	6.8
Total Private	10,598,200	10,561,300	9,840,700	36,900	0.3	757,500	7.7
Goods Producing	1,788,700	1,787,000	1,772,900	1,700	0.1	15,800	0.9
Mining and Logging	186,100	184,500	188,400	1,600	0.9	-2,300	-1.2
Construction	731,600	734,700	727,700	-3,100	-0.4	3,900	0.5
Manufacturing	871,000	867,800	856,800	3,200	0.4	14,200	1.7
Service Providing	10,772,200	10,739,500	9,983,800	32,700	0.3	788,400	7.9
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,552,700	2,551,200	2,380,100	1,500	0.1	172,600	7.3
Information	201,000	201,100	191,100	-100	0.0	9,900	5.2
Financial Activities	825,800	825,100	795,700	700	0.1	30,100	3.8
Professional and Business Services	1,844,400	1,830,600	1,695,600	13,800	0.8	148,800	8.8

Education and Health Services	1,712,500	1,711,100	1,648,000	1,400	0.1	64,500	3.9
Leisure and Hospitality	1,265,800	1,251,600	1,001,700	14,200	1.1	264,100	26.4
Other Services	407,300	403,600	355,600	3,700	0.9	51,700	14.5
Government	1,962,700	1,965,200	1,916,000	-2,500	-0.1	46,700	2.4

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.

Last Verified: June 18, 2021

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TWC Opens Child Care Subsidy Program To Workers Engaged in Job Searches

Date: June 16, 2021

Media Contact: James Bernsen

Phone: 512-463-8556

Commission Waives Rule Requiring Participants Be Employed;
Temporary Eligibility During Work Search Allowed

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission on Tuesday passed a waiver of a rule to allow unemployed individuals to enroll in the child care subsidy program. Previously, only individuals who were already employed, or participating in education/training, could be enrolled into the child care subsidy program. This change will help accommodate workers who are actively looking for employment, allowing them up to three months to find employment. The program is designed to assist working families, thus it is generally not available to parents who are not employed. However, lack of child care is frequently cited by individuals on unemployment as a major impediment to getting a job.

“TWC is committed to providing comprehensive services to help Texas job seekers connect to rewarding opportunities with Texas employers,” said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. “I encourage Texas families to take advantage of the expanded availability of child care, as well as training and upskilling services through TWC, to pursue a career in Texas’ exciting industries.”

The subsidized child care program is funded by a federal grant, which provides the state the flexibility to expand to this population. The commissioners will waive the rules effective July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

“Texas Workers have faced many challenges over the last year but getting back on their feet after so long has been particularly difficult,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. “This is a step we can take that preserves the focus of the program on working families, but provides help in that crucial job-search period.”

Parents in the program receive a subsidy for child care, with a copay based on actual income. The changes will allow the parents to qualify for child care with the copay waived until a job is found. The copay would then be put in place at the appropriate level after the individual is employed.

“Texas employers are rebounding from the pandemic and have job openings they are anxious to fill,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson. “For some Texans looking for a job, child care is that last piece of the puzzle that will help them re-enter the workforce and this program is win-win situation for both the employers and employees.”

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TWC Sets Stable Employer Tax Rate to Promote Continued Business Recovery

Date: June 15, 2021

Media Contact: James Bernsen

Phone: 512-463-8556

Unemployment Insurance Tax rate for 2021 set at pre-pandemic level, protecting Trust Fund solvency while reducing tax burden on Texas businesses

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) used legislative authority to set unemployment insurance (UI) tax rates for 2021 at a stable level, consistent with 2020 rates, to avoid burdening Texas businesses with a significant increase of taxes resulting from pandemic-related closures outside of their control.

“Texas employers continue to overcome the challenges of the past year and contribute to a strengthening economy,” said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. “Today’s action on UI taxes enables businesses to better focus resources on innovating and expanding jobs available to Texas workers.”

Employer-paid UI taxes replenish the Texas Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund, which provides temporary income for workers who lose their jobs through no fault of their own. Each employer’s UI tax rate is unique, tied to unemployment benefits paid to former employees. Absent today’s Commission action, most Texas employers would have seen significant increases in their tax obligation for 2021.

“Texas workers are eager to get back to work and help move our economy forward,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. “This decision to keep taxes low will encourage hiring, and expand opportunities for working Texans.”

The Commission set the state’s UI replenishment tax rate to 0.18 percent, and the deficit tax rate to 0.0 percent. The Obligation Assessment was set to 0.03 percent to cover any federal interest due on Title XII loans due on September 30, 2021. The combination of the replenishment tax and obligation assessment equals the 2020 replenishment tax rate of 0.21 percent.

“This decision gives stability and predictability to our UI tax structure,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson. “Texas employers and Business leaders look forward to that stability especially after a year of rampant uncertainty. This gives them the capacity they need to hire, expand and get Texas’ economy back on track.”

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Last Verified: June 15, 2021

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TWC Launches Training Portal for Restaurant Workers

Date: June 1, 2021

Media Contact: James Bernsen

Phone: 512-463-8556

Project Offers Free Training for Licensing and Certification

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) in partnership with the Texas Restaurant Association (TRA) is launching a new Restaurant Recovery Training certification portal for prospective restaurant workers. Part of the larger Restaurant Recovery Initiative, which launched recently, the training allows free and flexible online training to quickly prepare workers for restaurant industry jobs.

“This portal is another example of TWC’s commitment to providing tools to better connect Texans to jobs,” said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. “Quality training programs like the Restaurant Recovery Training Initiative ensure greater access to jobs, many of which are at small businesses.”

As one of the most regulated industries for the health, safety, and sanitation of its employees and customers, a career in the foodservice industry requires a certification in food and/or alcohol safety. All restaurant employees in Texas are required to have a valid food handler certification card. Employees in establishments that serve beer, wine, and mixed beverages are also required to have a valid Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) approved seller-server certification.

TWC’s new portal makes these courses available online at no cost to the employer nor potential employee. Jobseekers interested in obtaining one or both of the certifications can access the training [online](#).

“State licensing requirements are vital for health and safety, but they shouldn’t be an impediment to getting people hired and restaurants opening fully,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. “This new training program provides the quality, training and standards of excellence that are required, conveniently online, and for free.”

Neither the businesses nor trainees will need to pay for the online classes. The curriculum in both the ServSafe Food Handler and #1 TABC Certification by TRA program are tailored to maintain rigorous adherence to state guidelines and ensure the participants successfully demonstrate their knowledge of and adherence to safe and responsible practices.

“The pandemic has demonstrated the importance of health and safety protocols and Texas employers have gone above and beyond to meet these protocols, and create innovative solutions to run their businesses successfully,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson. “TWC has been a longstanding partner with our restaurants, especially since the pandemic, and we will continue to provide them with legendary customer service to ensure their overall success.”

The initiative is part of the Restaurant Recovery Initiative, which launched in May with a series of employer-focused [videos](#) outlining innovative new business models and technologies that allow restaurants to operate much more safely and efficiently, not just in a pandemic, but for the future beyond.

“Ensuring that new employees are able to be trained to meet the standards for food sanitation and alcohol safety required is key to supporting the revival of Texas restaurant industry, the state’s 2nd largest private employer,” said Emily Williams Knight, Ed.D., President and CEO of the Texas Restaurant Association. “We are grateful for the continued partnership and support of the TWC to make entering the industry as attainable as possible for those interested in a career in foodservice.”

The costs for this project come from a one-time grant from IKEA, which was accepted by the commission in December.

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our [email updates](#).

The Texas Restaurant Association was formed in 1937 to serve as the advocate in Texas and the indispensable resource for the foodservice industry. Today, as a leading business association, TRA represents the state’s \$70 billion restaurant industry, which is comprised of more than 50,000 locations and a workforce of 1.3 million employees. Along with the Texas Restaurant Foundation, the workforce development arm of the TRA, the Association protects, advances, and educates the growing industry.

Last Verified: June 08, 2021

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TWC Debuts 'Start My VR' Online Self-Referral for Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Date: June 28, 2021

Media Contact: Cisco Gamez

Phone: 512-463-8556

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is introducing "[Start My VR](#)" an online self-referral portal for prospective vocational rehabilitation customers, providing a convenient way for individuals with disabilities who are seeking employment to inquire about Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services and/or be connected to a VR staff member.

"Start My VR offers individuals with disabilities a way to connect with VR Services at their convenience and take their first step toward achieving their employment goals," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "TWC remains focused on helping every Texas job seeker connect to their next career opportunity."

Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services supports individuals with physical or mental disabilities in achieving their employment goals. VR Services are designed to help an individual live independently and address employment barriers related to a disability, and support eligible individuals as they prepare for, obtain, retain or advance in employment.

"Vocational Rehabilitation Services are staffed by teams of rehabilitation professionals, whose priority is to provide services and support to individuals with disabilities to ensure that they may fully participate in the labor market and live independent lives," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. "VR Services can often be a life-changing journey, which can begin with 'Start My VR'."

VR Services are personalized to an individual's needs and can include assessments and diagnostics, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech and cognitive therapies, among other services. VR Services, a core partner of the Texas Workforce System, may also include career-focused education, training, and apprenticeships, job development, paid work experience, among other employment supports.

"Texas employers that make disability inclusiveness a priority in their workplace have demonstrated increased employee retention, employee satisfaction, and innovation – all of which contribute to a competitive business advantage," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson. "Through 'Start My VR' we want to reach more individuals with disabilities to ensure they are aware of how VR services can benefit them, and support our goal to ensure that Texas employers benefit from the many talented individuals with disabilities who can join the workforce."

In addition to receiving inquiries about VR Services, the Start My VR system also can receive inquiries for the [Older Individuals who are Blind program, or VR-OIB](#).

VR-OIB services are designed to assist individuals age 55 and older adjust to the disability of blindness or visual impairment based on their specific needs. These services may include counseling and evaluations about vision loss, information and referral to community resources, assistive technology, diabetes education, or independent living skills training, which may include training in orientation and mobility and daily living skills.

To find out more about Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services, visit <https://twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/vocational-rehabilitation-services>

To find out how your business can benefit from hiring individuals with disabilities or to obtain information on employee accommodation, contact a Vocational Rehabilitation Business Relations Coordinator visit <https://www.twc.texas.gov/businesses/vocational-rehabilitation-business-relations>

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.

Last Verified: June 28, 2021

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-impaired customers may contact TWC through the relay service provider of their choice. [Equal opportunity is the law.](#)

For questions, compliments or complaints, call 800-628-5115

[Texas Workforce Commission Values](#): Community, Responsibility, Innovation, Accountability, Commitment to Excellence and Partnership.

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Texas Workforce Commission

TEXAS
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

Dear Texas Educational Faculty and Staff:

You are receiving this notification to introduce a new publication for students and parents called *Financial Resources and Planning for Education and Training Beyond High School* created by the Texas Workforce Commission's Education Outreach team.

High school students today have many education and training options available to help them reach their career goals. The costs of those program options vary widely, as does the financial assistance available for them. This document explores those education and training opportunities, and how to finance the pathways students choose to take.

Additionally, for those students interested in attending college after high school, navigating the financial aid and scholarships system can be a little overwhelming at times. This guide will help users understand and simplify the process, so they will be empowered to make the best decisions for themselves or their students.

If you are looking for free, effective, and easy-to-use financial planning resource for your students and their parents or guardians, we encourage you to explore the Financial Resources & Planning publication at tinyurl.com/TWCFinPlan.

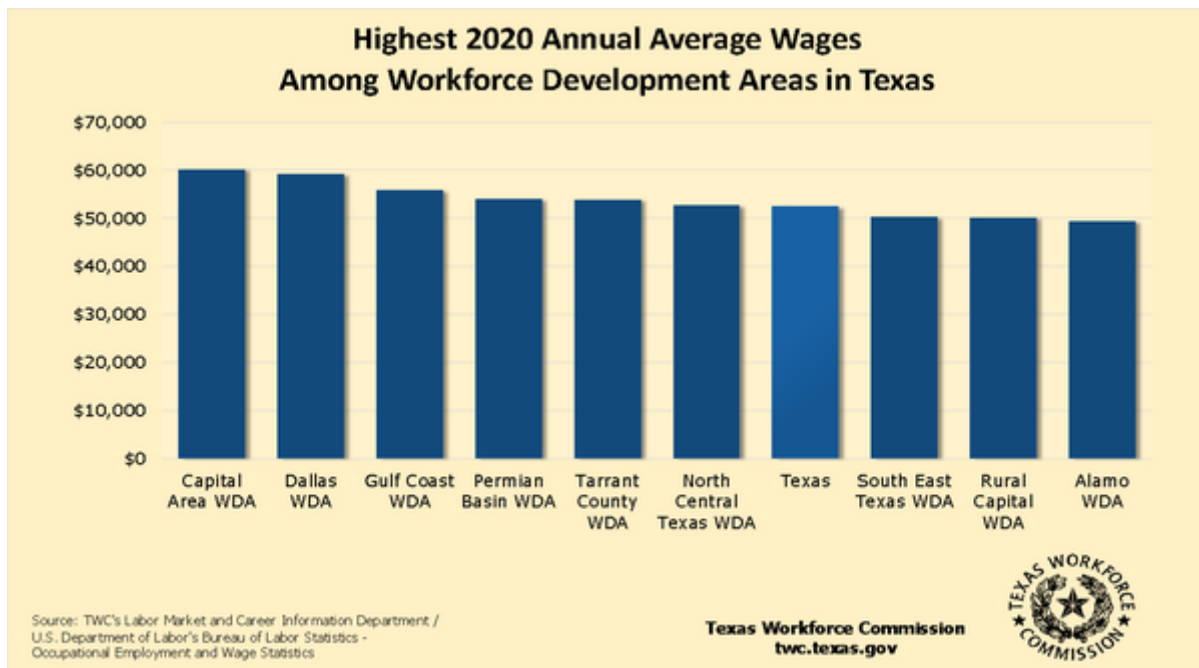
Follow this link to see all of our career education documents. They are available as free, downloadable PDFs with no copyright. This means you can print or duplicate any of our documents for free. Enjoy our latest publication and reach out to our team with any questions. <http://bit.ly/lmcipublications>

Thank you,
TWC Education Outreach Team
careerinformation@twc.texas.gov



2020 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) Now Available on TexasLMI.com

The Texas Workforce Commission's Labor Market and Career Information (LMCI) department is pleased to announce the 2020 occupational wage release on [TexasLMI.com](https://texaslmi.com). Using responses from thousands of employers and aggregating the data to protect confidentiality, we are able to estimate hourly and annual wages for more than 700 occupations statewide.



Job seekers including students can use these data to guide their career decisions, while employers can review the data to determine competitive wages for their workforce.

Visit [TexasLMI.com](https://texaslmi.com) to view the most comprehensive and detailed occupational wage data in Texas. Please view our instructional videos located at this link, <https://texaslmi.com/Help/Materials> if you need assistance with this or feel free to contact the LMCI department at 1-866-938-4444 for assistance with any of our other products on our main website: twc.texas.gov/labormarket.

Lastly, if you or your business receives an Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) report, we ask you to take the time to complete it. By filling out the OEWS report, you strengthen the information

on wages paid to employees in occupations that your business hires. For assistance with this form, please call the OEWS unit at 800-252-3616.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-impaired customers may contact TWC through the relay service provider of their choice. [Equal opportunity is the law.](#)



ITEM 11

**PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
CURRENT MEMBERSHIP
JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022**

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Kristi Hanes *****

Co-Owner/Director

Night & Day, Care & Play Inc.

2831 Mays Street

Amarillo, Texas 79109

(806) 352-2186 / (806) 322-0986 fax

nightandday@arn.net

Industry Represented: Services (62)

TWC ID #: 075710160

Firm Size: 29 employees

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F

Term Expires: June 30, 2022

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Betty Bara

Co-Owner

La Fiesta Grande

4704 Van Winkle Drive

Amarillo, Texas 79119

(806) 376-3689 / (806) 355-2826 fax

bettybara@aol.com

Industry Represented: Food (72)

TWC ID #: 021762288

Firm Size: 84

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F

Term Expires: June 30, 2022

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Heather Freeman

Director, Workforce Strategies

Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC - Pantex

P. O. Box 30020

Amarillo, Texas 79120

(806) 573-7782

heather.freeman@cns.doe.gov

Industry Represented: Manufacturing (31)

TWC ID #: 144395778

Firm Size: 3,230 employees

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F

Term Expires: June 30, 2022

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Mr. Jason Henderson *** / ****

Operations Director

Bell Helicopter, Textron

10201 Airport Blvd.

Amarillo, Texas 79111

(806) 467-4117

jhenderson@bellflight.com

Industry Represented: Manufacturing (31)

TWC ID #: 002639157

Firm Size: 4,954 employees

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M

Term Expires: June 30, 2023

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Mr. David Parker

Regional Human Resource Manager

United Supermarkets, LLC

5807 S.W. 45th Avenue, Suite 100

Amarillo, Texas 79109

(806) 457-6658

dparker@unitedtexas.com

Industry Represented: Retail (44)

TWC ID #: 111460434

Firm Size: 3,000 employees

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M

Term Expires: June 30, 2022

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA I - DALLAM,
HARTLEY, MOORE, OLDHAM AND SHERMAN
COUNTIES)**

Mr. Michael Wright ***
Publisher
Moore County News - Press
P.O. Box 757
Dumas, Texas 79029
(806) 935-4111 / (806) 935-2438 fax
mwright@moorenews.com

Industry Represented: Information (51)
TWC ID #: 08-099770-1
Firm Size: 11 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30,2022

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA II - HANSFORD,
HEMPHILL, HUTCHINSON, LIPSCOMB,
OCHILTREE AND ROBERTS COUNTIES)**

Ms. Michelle Griffin * / ***
President – Borger Branch
Amarillo National Bank
P. O. Box 949
Borger, Texas 79008
(806) 275-5025 / (806) 274-4533 fax
michelle.griffin@anb.com

Industry Represented: Finance (52)
TWC ID #: 000422070
Firm Size: 619 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA III - BRISCOE,
CASTRO, DEAF SMITH, PARMER AND
SWISHER COUNTIES)**

Mr. Art Martinez
Owner
Whiteface Heating & Air, Inc.
127 Main Street
Hereford, Texas 79045
(806) 364-4122
whitefaceha@wtrt.net

Industry Represented: Wholesale Trade (42)
TWC ID #: 130532764
Firm Size: 5 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: H/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA IV - ARMSTRONG,
CARSON, POTTER AND RANDALL COUNTIES)**

Mr. Matt Parker ** / ***
Vice President for Cardiovascular Services
Baptist St. Anthony's Health System (BSA)
1600 Wallace Blvd.
Amarillo, Texas 79106
(806) 212-5714
matt.parker@bsahs.org

Industry Represented: Healthcare (62)
TWC ID #: 138513173
Firm Size: 2,491 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2021

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA V - CHILDRESS,
COLLINGSWORTH, DONLEY, GRAY, HALL AND
WHEELER COUNTIES)**

Ms. Laura Lopez
Human Resource Specialist
Hunting Titan Inc.
11785 Hwy 152
Pampa, Texas 79065
(806) 661-3682 / (806) 661-3675 fax
Laura.Lopez@hunting-intl.com

Industry Represented: Manufacturing (31)
TWC ID: 143344908
Firm Size: 252 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

PRIVATE SECTOR (AT LARGE)

Mr. Kevin Caddell
Owner
Furniture Fashions, LTD
1603 Tennessee Blvd.
Dalhart, Texas 79022
(806) 244-5551
Kevin@furnfash.com

Industry Represented: Retail (44)
TWC ID #: 109626740
Firm Size: 8 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2022

PRIVATE SECTOR (AT LARGE)

Mr. Charlie Rivas ***
Chief Executive Officer
Rivas Environmental Consultants
200 Winery Road
Amarillo, Texas 79118
(806) 622-2255 / (806) 622-2257 fax
rivas@arn.net

Industry Represented: Services (54)
TWC ID #: 012394527
Firm Size: 0 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: H/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

PRIVATE SECTOR (AT LARGE)

Mr. Francisco Apodaca
Co-Owner
Apodaca Brothers
801 E. Campbell
Pampa, TX 79065
(806) 669-1169 / (806) 669-1169
12280ehwy60@gmail.com

Industry Represented: Construction (23)
TWC ID #: 119858119
Firm Size: 8 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: H/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2021

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Shawna Elliott
Executive Director
Pampa Chamber of Commerce
200 North Ballard Street
Pampa, Texas 79065
(806) 669-3241 / (806) 669-3244
exec@pampachamber.com

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Jay Barrett ***
Principal, Amarillo Area Center for Advanced Learning
Amarillo Independent School District
1100 North Forest
Amarillo, Texas 79106
(806) 326-2800
jay.barrett@amaisd.org

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2022

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Texas D. "Tex" Buckhaults
Interim President
Clarendon College
P. O. Box 968
Clarendon, Texas 79226
(806) 874-3571
Tex.Buckhaults@clarendoncollege.edu

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2022

ADULT BASIC AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Dr. Tamara Clunis
Vice President of Academic Affairs
Amarillo College
P. O. Box 447
Amarillo, Texas 79178
(806) 371-5296 / (806) 354-5891 fax
ttclunis@actx.edu

Ethnicity/Gender: B/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

LITERACY ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Lisa White
Literacy Coordinator
Amarillo Public Library
413 E. 4th
Amarillo, Texas 79101
(806) 378-3043 / (806) 378-9327 fax
lisa.white@amarillolibrary.org

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2022

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Valarie Robbins
Area Manager
Texas Workforce Solutions
Vocational Rehabilitation Services
5809 South Western Boulevard, #255
Amarillo, Texas 79110
(806) 351-3830 / (806) 351-3860 fax
valarie.robbs@twc.state.tx.us

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Magi York
Executive Director
Panhandle Community Services
1309 West Eighth Avenue
Amarillo, Texas 79120-2150
(806) 342-6150 / (806) 373-8143
magi.york@pcsvcs.org

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Irene Arnold ***
Case Manager
Downtown Women’s Center, Inc.
409 South Monroe
Amarillo, Texas 79101
(806) 372-3625 / (806) 372-9026
irene@dwcenter.org

Ethnicity/Gender: H/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. Drew Downs
Assistant Business Manager
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers -
Local 602
200 South Fannin Street
Amarillo, Texas 79106
(806) 376-9945 / (806) 376-9407
ddowns@ibew602.org

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2021

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. John Roberts
Council Business Representative
Central South Carpenters Regional Council
12180 Tascosa Road
Amarillo, Texas 79124
(806) 373-4574 / (806) 374-4437 fax
jroberts@cscouncil.net

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

Mr. Norman Bearden ****
Veterans Resource Coordinator
Texas Workforce Commission
2002 West Loop 289, Suite 117
Lubbock, Texas 79407
(806) 765-5038 ext.2129
norman.bearden@twc.state.tx.us

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2023

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Ms. Tonya McWilliams
Program Manager
Texas Health and Human Services Commission
28 Western Plaza Drive
Amarillo, Texas 79109
(806) 457-5231 / (806) 457-5212
Tonya.McWilliams@hpsc.state.tx.us

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2022

- * Chairman
- ** Vice Chairman
- *** Executive Committee Member
- **** Also serves as Veterans Representative
- ***** Also serves as Child Care Representative