



## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FUND



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### Program Description:

A private business, business consortium, or trade union in need of workforce training and funding assistance can rely on an experienced network of partners for guidance along the Skills Development Fund path. The Skills Development Fund is a customized job-training program, providing training dollars for Texas businesses and workers through state-funded skills grants, to ensure that workforce stays up-to-date, competitive and new workers trained with the skills that industry requires. Administered by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), success is achieved through collaboration among businesses, public Community and Technical colleges, Local Workforce Development Boards and economic development partners. Together, under the Skills Development Fund program, businesses gain a more highly trained workforce, workers upgrade their skills, and the Texas economy is strengthened.

For the next two fiscal years (September 1, 2009 – August 31, 2011), TWC has \$90 million in Skills Development Funds to support high quality, customized job training projects across the state. Grants for a single business may be limited to \$500,000.

### Program Eligibility Criteria:

A business, consortium of businesses, or trade union identifies a training need and then partners with a public Community, or Technical college to fill its specific needs. Businesses work with college partners to submit proposals, develop curricula and conduct training. The Skills Development Fund pays for the training, the college administers the grant, and businesses create new jobs and improve the skills of their current workers.

### Program's Benefits:

TWC provides access to a team of highly skilled professionals who provide technical assistance, at no charge, to help streamline the development of projects and proposals. A team works directly with employers, colleges, local workforce development boards and economic development partners throughout the life of the project, to ensure employers are getting the training their workers need.

The Workforce Business Services Outreach & Customer Support Team will:

- Provide technical assistance
- Advise and assist partners with developing quality proposals
- Review "draft" proposals prior to formal submission

Training includes:

- Tailored curriculum
- Classes on-site or at the training provider location
- Flexible class schedules to minimize impact to employers
- Addressing company needs in real time with real situations

### How to Apply:

To discuss a project, please contact the Workforce Business Services Outreach & Customer Support team toll-free at (877) 463-1777 or [Skills@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:Skills@twc.state.tx.us) or call (210) 207-8080.