

ABSTRACT

State Apprenticeship Expansion Competitive Funding Opportunity	
Lead Applicant / Organization Name (Competitive Funding): Texas Workforce Commission	
Lead Applicant Entity Type: U.S State - Texas	
Lead Applicant City and State:	Austin, Texas
Application Type: <i>Competitive Funding</i>	
Project Title: State Apprenticeship Expansion (SAEF2) Competitive Funding Project w/focus on registered apprenticeship expansion in industries such as K-12 Teachers, Healthcare, Child Care, Supply Chain and Semi-conductor.	
Funding Amount Requested: \$6 Million	
Total Number of apprentices enrolled in RAPS during the life of the grant, if applicable: 1,680 With contractual strategy at 72% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 72% of \$6Million is \$4,320,000 – keeping the average cost per at \$2,000; • 20% quality pre-apprentices total of 420; • 80% apprentices for a total of 1,680; and • Total served 2,100 	
Population(s) to be served: All populations, including continuing to build and develop statewide structure to support equity focused on career awareness to underrepresented populations (women, people of color, individuals with disabilities, veterans, justice impacted individuals, youth (including foster youth), as well as individuals in rural communities).	
List the name of the Required Partner (<i>for states with federally-recognized SAAs</i>): Not Applicable; Texas is an OA state	
List the name(s) of Optional Partners , as applicable:	
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)	State Agency
Texas Education Agency (TEA)	State Agency
Department of Labor – Office of Apprenticeship (DOL-OA), Regional and State Directors	Federal Government
5 to 7 Workforce Boards (Boards)	Council of Governments
3 to 5 Community College	Institutions of Higher Education
3 to 5 Education Service Centers/Independent School Districts/Career and Technical Education	Educational Institutions
8 to 10 DOL-OA Registered Apprenticeship Programs	Workforce/Training Providers

Targeted Industry(ies) and/or Occupation(s): Business/Industry will impact development, but focus will be on K-12 Teachers, Healthcare, Child Care, Public Sector, Supply Chain, and Semi-conductors.

Summary of program activities:

TWC strategy includes the following activities:

- Continue building stronger partnerships with workforce partner such as Texas Higher Education Coordination Board (THECB) including Community and Technical Colleges, Texas Education Agency (TEA) including Texas Education Service Centers (ESCs)/Independent School Districts (ISDs)/Career Technical Education (CTE), Local Workforce Boards, and Department of Labor – Office of Apprenticeship including currently Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP).
 - Continue to align Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) programs such as Adult Education and Literacy (AEL), Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), and Worker Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC).
- Continue to work with employers to develop new RAPs or expand existing programs – adding incentives to this strategy.
- Continue to provide funding for training particularly from underrepresented populations (women, people of color, individuals with disabilities, veterans, justice impacted individuals, youth (including foster youth), as well as individuals in rural communities) being enrolled in a RAP. This training may include:
 - Related Instruction reimbursement,
 - On-the-Job reimbursement
 - Development of curricula
 - Online and technology-based learning
 - Accelerated and competency-based training that integrates academic and occupational skills training
 - Apprenticeship training cost
 - Supportive services as identified
- Fund/Develop quality pre-apprenticeship activities/programs that lead directly to RAP enrollment. Quality Pre-apprenticeship activities that support underrepresented populations and underserved communities and increase opportunities to create career pathways for youth and adults.
 - Expand RAP opportunities for youth (between the ages of 16 and 24). Includes establishing and expanding workforce partnerships to expand RAPs and/or quality pre-apprenticeship programs that lead to RAP enrollment for youth, building on partnerships such as TEA/ESCs/ISD' Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, Community Colleges, RAPs.

Subrecipient Roles: List all subrecipients and the roles (activities) they will fill on the proposed project. Roles should be aligned to proposed workplan.

Governor Abbott's Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative links education and workforce – linking THECB, TEA, and TWC together to work to:

- Grow in economic prosperity
- Support efficient and flexible pathways to earning degrees, certificates, and other credentials linked to high-wage, in-demand jobs
- Ensure students receive the supports necessary to succeed at all states of their education and in their transition to the workforce.
- Create a robust interagency collaboration around common goals, data, and processes to ensure improved student outcomes and meet employer needs

The strength of TWC's strategy to expand RAPs across Texas calls on the Tri-Agency and their expertise to guide their partners that include Community College, ESCs/ISDs/CTE and Boards to explore/develop/implement RA and quality pre-apprenticeship.

THECB: will support the development of RA in both traditional and non-traditional areas to ease workforce shortages through engaging and assisting employers to explore/begin/develop/implement RA and quality pre-apprenticeship with direct pathways into RAPs

- Community College: through THECB leadership will develop new and expand current RAPs and where identified need develop quality pre-apprenticeship activities/programs that lead directly to RAP enrollment.

TEA: will focus creating and implementing a plan on expanding quality pre-apprenticeship in high schools that will have career pathways into RAPs. TEA will capitalize on already thriving CTE programs, thus providing highly skilled, highly paid long-term careers for individuals supporting business/industry with a pipeline supporting a productive workforce.

- Texas ESCs/ISDs/CTE: through TEA leadership will develop quality pre-apprenticeship activities/programs that lead directly to RAP enrollment.

DOL-OA Region IV- Director and Texas State Director: will continue to support TWC's Apprenticeship Texas staff as well as its grantee navigators throughout the state in review/approval of RAP standards. TWC has received Apprenticeship Training Representative (ATR) training and from both Regional and State staff as need was identified to support the continue ability to expedite program approvals in Texas.

- DOL-OA RAPs will engage and mentor other developing programs as Apprenticeship Texas staff do. RAPs will also explore/develop new occupations and quality pre-apprenticeship programs that will open career paths for youth (including foster youth), as well as underrepresented populations and their communities.

Board: will continue to support education and other workforce partners in the development of new RAPs as well as the expansion of current RAPs throughout Texas. Boards will continue to use any appropriate funding including but not limited to, DOL apprenticeship expansion, WIOA, AE, VR, etc., to support quality pre-apprenticeship and RA.

As all partners, will focus on:

- underrepresented populations (women, people of color, individuals with disabilities, veterans, justice impacted individuals, youth (including foster youth), as well as individuals in rural communities) being enrolled in a RAP.
- Targeted industries such as K-12 Teachers, Healthcare, Child Care, Public Sector, Supply Chain, and Semi-conductors while allowing for other business/industry to impact RAP development and expansion.

List of **credential(s)** to be awarded:

DOL-OA completion certificates including industry credentials such as AWS, MSSC, NIMS, OSHA, HAZWOPER, CompTIA, NCCER, AutoCAD, CPR, CISCO, Microsoft Certified Solutions, healthcare licensures and other medical and dental certifications. TWC reserves the right to modify the list of credentials as needed based on workforce needs.

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