

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWC Awards Alamo Colleges and South Texas College Grants for Adult Education and Literacy Programs

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has awarded Alamo Colleges and South Texas College (STC) grants totaling \$1,025,383 to administer the first Texas Adult Completion and Skills Initiative. This initiative will provide services to 16- to 25-year-olds who are out of school and do not have a high school diploma or GED.

Both Alamo Colleges and STC will provide a strategic, comprehensive plan to help individuals earn a high school diploma or GED and enter college training for high-demand occupations that result in credentials recognized by employers. College and career transitional support and employment services are included to help the participants obtain employment after program completion.

“These programs provide young adults the chance to reconnect to a unique education attainment opportunity that integrates skills training,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. “I congratulate these grantees for their commitment to demonstrating how we can effectively recover young adults and equip them with marketable credentials.”

Alamo Colleges received a grant for \$778,007 to partner with the San Antonio Independent School District, South San Antonio Independent School District, Southside Independent School District, Education Service Center Region 20 and Workforce Solutions Alamo. Alamo Colleges plans to enroll 1,220 students in the High School Completion Program and co-enroll approximately 275 students in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program.

“The selection of the Alamo Colleges to lead this initiative reflects our impressive track record in adult education and skills training,” said Alamo Colleges Chancellor Dr. Bruce Leslie. “It also exemplifies our commitment to our mission of empowering our diverse communities for success, by helping those who have dropped out of high school to complete both their high school education and college training that will prepare them to enter the workforce.”

For more information on career programs at Alamo Colleges, please visit: www.alamo.edu.

STC received a grant for \$247,376 to partner with Workforce Solutions Lower Rio Grande, La Joya Independent School District, Mission Consolidated Independent School District and Education Service Center Region One. STC will enroll 88 students in the High School Completion Program and CTE Program.

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“South Texas College is honored to receive the Texas Adult Completion and Skills Initiative grant which will help transform the lives of 88 participants in the Rio Grande Valley,” said STC Associate Dean of Continuing Professional and Workforce Education Juan Carlos Aguirre. “We are very excited to collaborate with local school districts to give these students the opportunity to obtain their high school diploma, GED, and marketable skills credentials for an in-demand occupation.”

Aguirre also noted: “Not only will the students be ready for employment upon completion of the program, but they will also have earned between six and eight college credit hours toward their certification.”

For more information on these programs at STC, please visit www.southtexascollege.edu.

Other community colleges interested in applying for similar grants and/or information on the Texas Adult Completion and Skills Initiative II grant opportunity or other TWC grant initiatives can visit the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Electronic Business Daily at esbd.cpa.state.tx.us.

The Texas Adult Completion and Skills Initiative is part of the Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) program that TWC began administering in the fall of 2014. TWC funds AEL programs around the state to provide English language, math, reading, and writing instruction to help students acquire the skills needed to succeed in the workforce, earn a high school equivalency, or enter college or career training.

Individuals interested in obtaining AEL services should visit www-tcall.tamu.edu/provider/search.htm. Training providers interested in learning more about TWC’s AEL program can visit www.twc.state.tx.us/partners/adult-education-literacy.

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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.