

# Texas Workforce Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE:** June 23, 2016

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## **The Hospitals of Providence and El Paso Community College Partner for \$481,813 Job-Training Grant**

AUSTIN – The Hospitals of Providence and El Paso Community College (EPCC) have partnered to provide job training for 331 new and incumbent workers using a \$481,813 Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The grant will benefit workers in the Workforce Solutions Borderplex area.



On June 22, 2016, TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar presented a \$481,813 Skills Development Fund grant to representatives from The Hospitals of Providence and El Paso Community College (EPCC). Pictured from left: Mayor of El Paso Oscar Leeser, EPCC Health Grants Manager Souraya Hajjar, TWC Chairman Alcantar, EPCC Board of Trustees Selena Solis, The Hospitals of Providence Market CEO Sally Hurt-Deitch, Workforce Solutions Borderplex CEO Joyce Wilson, EPCC Assistance Vice-President Workforce and Continuing Education Kathy Lopez, EPCC President Dr. William Serrata, The Hospitals of Providence Sierra and East Campus Chief Human Resources Officer Sandra Balboa, EPCC Director of CE Health Marta de la Fuente, EPCC Vice-President Instruction and Workforce Education Steve Smith.

*Photo courtesy of El Paso Community College*

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## Training Grant

This grant will be used to provide customized training with classes and training focused on industry-related topics such as basic nursing, critical care, neonatal intensive care nursing, emergency and operating room care, chemotherapy infusion and respiratory therapy. Trainees will include registered nurses, nursing assistants, phlebotomists, radiologic technologists and respiratory therapists. Upon completion of training, the workers will receive an average wage of \$26.02.

“Skills grants deliver customized training solutions that help Texas employers and workers succeed in the marketplace,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. “This investment builds not only employee skills, but the capabilities of our community colleges to the benefit of employers and the community. We are pleased to make this investment.”

The Skills Development Fund grant program is celebrating 20 years of success as the state’s premier training program in 2015-16. The fund was initiated by the Legislature in September of 1995 and first began awarding contracts in 1996. During that time the Skills Development Fund grants have created or upgraded more than 329,333 jobs throughout Texas. The grants have assisted 4,141 employers with their customized training needs. The Legislature allocated \$48.5 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2016-17 biennium. Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the TWC website at [www.texasworkforce.org/skills](http://www.texasworkforce.org/skills).

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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](http://www.texasworkforce.org). To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our [email updates](#).*