

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 9, 2016

MEDIA CONTACT: Lisa Givens

PHONE: 512-463-8556

Lineage Logistics, Wonderful Citrus Packing Partner with South Texas College for \$391,350 Job-Training Grant

AUSTIN – Lineage Logistics and Wonderful Citrus Packing have partnered with South Texas College to provide job training for 288 new and incumbent workers using a \$391,350 Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The grant will benefit workers in the Workforce Solutions Lower Rio Grande Valley area.

This grant will be used to provide customized training to 288 new and incumbent workers for industry-related topics with focused instruction on diesel maintenance, electrical troubleshooting, basic industrial electricity and basic programmable logic controllers. Trainees will include forklift operators, customer service representatives and warehouse supervisors. Upon completion of training, the workers will receive an average wage of \$12.73.



TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez presents a \$391,350 Skills Development Fund grant check to representatives from South Texas College, Lineage Logistics and Wonderful Citrus Packing on Wednesday, Nov. 9. Pictured from left to right, TOP ROW: McAllen EDC President Keith Patridge, South Texas College (STC) Dean of Industry Training Carlos Margo, Mission EDC CEO Alex Meade, Governor Greg Abbott Regional Representative Leticia Flores. BOTTOM ROW: STC Board Trustee Paul Rodriguez, McAllen EDC VP of Business Janie Cavazos, City of McAllen Mayor Jim Darling, Commissioner Alvarez, STC President Dr. Shirley A. Reed, South Texas Manufacturers Association Executive Director Mike Willis, Wonderful Citrus HR Manager Daisy Alvizo, Lineage Logistics Regional HR Business Partner David Davila, Lineage Logistics HR Manager Terry Vega, and South Texas College Institute for Advanced Manufacturing Training Manager Raul Ruiz.

Photo courtesy of South Texas College.

-more-

“The partnership between South Texas College, Lineage Logistics and Wonderful Citrus Packing on this Skills Development Fund grant will benefit both the local community and its workforce,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. “Our labor force is among the most talented and skilled in the world and we continue to seek and implement strategies to improve the skills of Texas workers.”

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.

South Texas College contact: Assistant Director of Public Relations and Marketing Ray Pedraza, 956-655-6395 or rpedraz2@southtexascollege.edu.

###ljk

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](#).