

Customized Training Focus

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FY 2007 Skills Impact

281 Businesses Served
7,073 new jobs supported
13,758 existing jobs retained
55 grants awarded

Proposal Forms and Information

Skills Development Fund
<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdfintro.html>
Next submission date – June 2, 2008

Self-Sufficiency Fund
<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/ssfintro.html>
Next submission date – July 14, 2008

Upcoming Events

Dates of Upcoming Workforce Forums:
August 11-13, 2008: Omni Southpark Hotel - Austin

12th Annual Texas Workforce Conference
December 3-5, 2008: Grand Hyatt San Antonio – San Antonio

Address

101 E. 15th St.,
Room 426-T
Austin, Texas 78778
(512) 463-8844

FY 2009 submission dates announced

The Quarterly Submission Dates for FY2009 Skills Development Fund (SDF) proposals are shown below. Submission dates for Self-Sufficiency Fund (SSF) proposals can be found following the web link provided in the sidebar to the left of this page. While proposals

Skills Development Fund Quarterly Submission Dates for FY2009	
<u>For Contracts Starting :</u>	<u>Proposals Must be Received:</u>
September 1, 2008	June 2, 2008 (Quarter 1)
December 1, 2008	September 2, 2008 (Quarter 2)
March 1, 2009	December 1, 2008 (Quarter 3)
June 1, 2009	March 3, 2009 (Quarter 4)

are accepted at any time, the quarterly submission dates provide a structure for evaluating and finalizing proposals. Please note that the targeted turnaround time for notifications on submitted proposals is 45 working days, not calendar days. The 45 working day timeframe is only feasible if submitted proposals have all the required components and all the information requested in the application is complete. Colleges and their business partners will be notified within 10 working days whether their proposal has the required components and all required information is complete in order to continue the proposal review process. The speed at which a proposal can be then evaluated hinges on the quality of the proposal and the responsiveness of the college in remedying the deficiencies identified during the evaluation.

The best way to expedite your proposal review with a successful result is to work with the Workforce Business Services Project Development Team prior to proposal submission. The Project Development Team can provide you with valuable tips and advice on developing a quality SDF or SSF project. See the **Contact Us** sidebar on page 2 for accessing technical assistance or go to our website at CustomizedTrainingSolutions@twc.state.tx.us. Please note that Workforce Business Services Department has moved to a new office suite. Our new address is located in the bottom left sidebar on this page.

Dun & Bradstreet number key to showing stability

One of the key pieces of information on the Private Partner Information form is the business' Dun & Bradstreet number. This number is used to establish the financial stability of a business that desires to be part of a Skills Development Fund project.

If you have a business that does not know its Dun & Bradstreet number, the number can be quickly obtained from Dun & Bradstreet by calling its customer service line at 1-800-234-DUNS (3867).

The business will need to be the one that makes the call – not the college. The business will need to provide and confirm some information, which will take 10 to 15 minutes.

Contact Us

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- The past requirement for one year follow-up information reporting on Skills Development and Self-Sufficiency project participants is no longer in effect. The requirement for gathering this data has been discontinued effective beginning in FY 2008.
- The Tax ID required on the Private Partner Information Form is the **Texas** UI Tax ID – not the Federal ID.
- There will be a panel discussion at the TACE Conference April 23-25, 2008. The panel will address topics such as: finding appropriate business partners, building a solid budget, increasing your capacity to manage multiple projects, and using Tracer, SOC codes, and prevailing wage data.

Skills Development Fund grant allows partnership to bring workers to Gulf area

The January 2007 opening of a new facility in the Port of Houston, the largest container shipping port in the Gulf of Mexico, resulted in a shortage of trained workers. San Jacinto College partnered with the West Gulf Maritime Association (WGMA), which represents eight businesses, to bring a \$987,620 Skills Development Fund grant to the Gulf Coast region to meet this immediate need. The college not only focused on curriculum development, but also worked with WGMA to create appropriate career ladders and training evaluations. The training resulted in certifications that are recognized in all Texas maritime ports. The



TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton (left) presents a Skills Development Grant check for \$987,620 to West Gulf Maritime Association President Walter A. Niemand (center) and San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. William H. Lindemann (far right). (San Jacinto College Photo/Teri Fowle)

college committed \$53,000 for in-kind resources to administer the project and to provide facilities and equipment. The project will create approximately 570 new jobs and upgrade the skills of 1,060 current workers.

SSNs required to report trainee participation

One of the key pieces of information to report monthly participation and status in a Skills Development or Self-Sufficiency Fund project is the trainees' Social Security Number (SSN). TWC always has required SSNs for reporting purposes and never has allowed substitute numbers (e.g., employee numbers) to be used.

There have been some instances where colleges have been surprised to learn that business partners are unwilling or unable to supply SSNs to comply with this requirement. TWC recommends that the college discuss the SSN requirements with business partners at the earliest appropriate opportunity and that the SSN requirement be included in the signed agreement. If businesses are unwilling or unable to provide SSN, provisions have to be made to obtain the SSN from the trainee prior to enrolling the trainee in class.

Failure to report the SSN for a trainee results in the college not being able to count that trainee in their performance.