

A Snapshot of Regional Skills Development

Finding workers with the right mix of skills is a growing challenge for companies across industries. In Dallas-Fort Worth, the business community is meeting this challenge through avenues that include establishing apprenticeships and participating in specialized training programs through public-private partnerships. That means wherever a company locates in the region, they will have access to a steady stream of talent.

Skills Development Fund (SDF)

This successful state grant program offers businesses, consortia of businesses, or trade unions an opportunity to identify a training need and then partner with a public community or technical college to create solutions. Businesses work with college partners to develop curricula and conduct training. The local workforce board authorizes the proposal; SDF pays for the training; the college administers the grant; and businesses create new jobs and improve the skills of their current workforce.

See more at twc.texas.gov

Examples:

- In 2023, Dallas College and Gainwell Technologies received \$1 million in grants from the Texas Workforce Commission and the U.S. Department of Labor, including \$468,000 from the SDF. The Irving-based company will provide training and advancement opportunities for more than 500 employees. Gainwell develops and implements digital and cloud-enabled solutions that power state Medicaid agencies.
- In 2023, Dallas College received \$1 million in SDF funding to create a job training program with partners including Mint Dentistry, Kpost Company, On-Target Supplies and Logistics, and the Richards Group. Six hundred new and current workers will receive customized training in areas like project management, roofing, dental hygiene, material handling, and desktop support.
- In 2022, Collin College received a \$928,000 SDF grant to train 580 workers in high-demand occupations supporting the food manufacturing industry. Six companies will receive customized training in the areas of machine operations, material handling, business software, and quality control, among others.

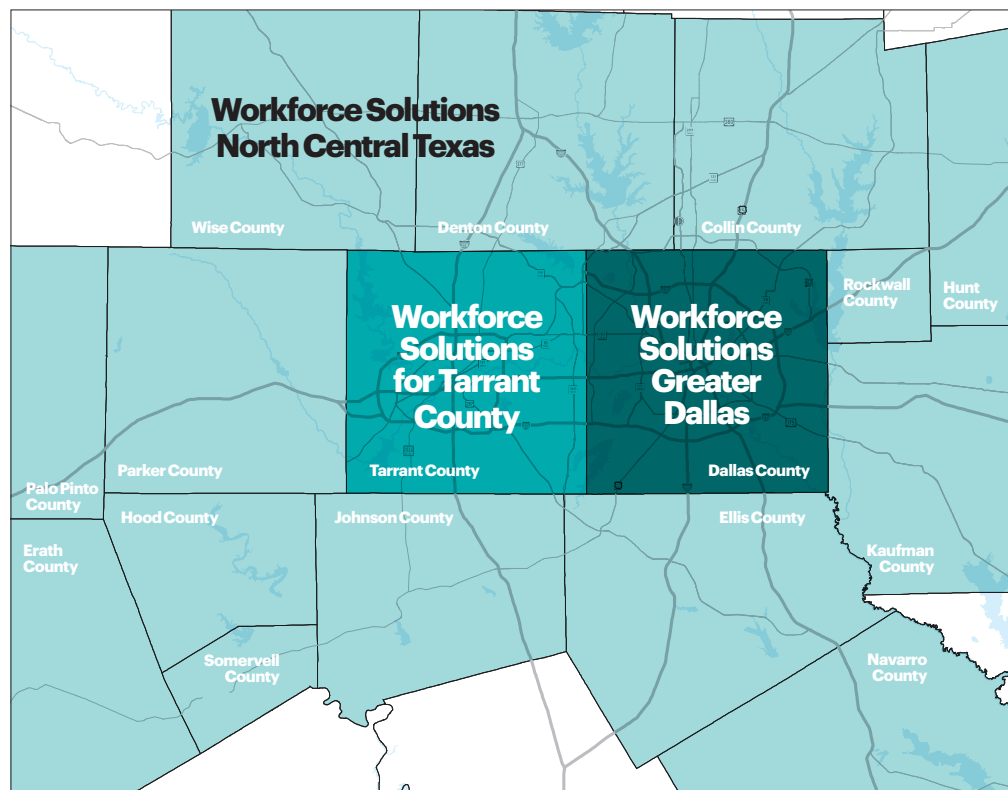
Workforce Development

Three workforce development boards serve residents and companies across the Dallas-Fort Worth region. Companies can use board services to find, hire, train, and retain skilled workers. Workforce offices work with employers to create customized hiring events, build skills training programs, and provide labor market data. Job seekers can access WorkInTexas.com, the state's free job board service, as well as apply for child care and transportation services.

Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas
wfsdallas.com

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County
workforcesolutions.net

Workforce Solutions North Central Texas
dfwjobs.com



Community and Technical Colleges

Community colleges in the Dallas-Fort Worth region work with companies of all sizes to customize training programs and curriculum to meet local workforce needs. Dallas College includes seven campuses and a dozen centers throughout Dallas County. Since 1965, Dallas College has served over three million people, and is one of the largest community college systems in the U.S. Tarrant County College (TCC) operates six campuses and two training centers. Approximately one in every 22 Tarrant County residents takes a TCC class each year. Collin College attracts 58,000 students annually to its 200-plus degree and certificate programs across 11 campuses. With six campuses, North Central Texas College (NCTC) is the state's oldest continuously operating two-year college.

Dallas College led a consortium of educational institutions to secure what school officials call a groundbreaking \$8.8 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration in 2022. Funding is being used to train the next generation of the region's bio and life science workforce in three areas: biotechnology, biomanufacturing, and bioinformatics.

In 2023, Dallas College received a 2024 Innovation Award from D CEO magazine and Dallas Innovates in recognition of contributions to the advancement of education including: a first-of-its-kind Student Teacher Residency Program; the first cohort of bachelor's degree recipients in early childhood education and training; the launch of a second bachelor's degree program in nursing; and the Student Care Network that provides holistic services to help students succeed.



Collin College announced a new partnership in 2023 to offer Plano-based Toyota's Technician Training & Education Network (T-TEN) program at its Technical Campus in Allen. The campus provides classroom and lab space dedicated to training craftspeople on the latest techniques with the newest industry-standard technology.

In 2024, Collin College will enroll the first cohort of students in the Texas A&M Engineering Academy, a collaboration between the two schools that will allow students to pursue one of 22 majors to help the state of Texas meet a growing demand for engineers.

Tarrant County College (TCC) commissioned an independent study that estimates its value to the regional workforce includes \$2.1 billion in added income for Tarrant County alone. This impact can be attributed in part to innovative programs that meet the workforce where the jobs are; reach non-traditional populations; or provide holistic services that ensure student success.

Examples include opening a training and skills development center at AllianceTexas, one of the largest employment centers in Dallas-Fort Worth; creating the Next Phase Program offered to people who have been incarcerated for low-level, nonviolent crimes to choose welding, business, or office professional courses; and authorizing construction of childcare centers on its South and Northwest campuses beginning in 2025 to bolster student-parent attendance.

In 2023, the U.S. Department of Education awarded \$4.6 million over five years to TCC to help low income, first-generation college students access higher education.

The **Texas State Technical College** is a statewide system operating 10 campuses. The North Texas location comprises 100,000 square feet of labs and classrooms where students can prepare for opportunities in:

- Computer Aided Drafting & Design Technology
- Diesel Equipment Technology
- Precision Machining Technology
- Computer Networking & Systems Administration
- Electrical Power & Controls
- Welding
- Cybersecurity
- HVAC Technology
- Industrial Systems-Electrical Specialization