

North Texas 2050 Action Package

Issue: Economic Development	Dr. Whelan's Team/Burns Development Group	
Action Tool Title	Skills Development Fund	
Description of the tool:	These are funds set up to promote technical based schools and higher education job training	
How Well Does It Work?		
How valuable is this tool? How important is its contribution to achieving North Texas' vision for the future?		
This contributes to the future of North Texas because the funding allows for training to be		
How does it actually work?		
The Texas Workforce Commission funds the training, a college administers the grant, businesses then create new jobs and/or improve jobs they already have to fill workers needs.		
What are the costs and who will they affect?	What are the benefits and who will they help?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost are to businesses and or employees that are not covered in the \$500,000 grant such as: travel expenses, drug testing, certain equipment purchases are not covered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The benefits are to the private businesses, trade unions, and business consortiums • Job creation and retention, this benefits the 20% of citizens in the area that are below the novertv line. accordina to Census. 	
What are the biggest stumbling blocks?	How can they be addressed?	
Who Would be Responsible?		
Primary (lead) responsibility	Texas Workforce Commission: Dale A. Robertson, Manager of Workforce Business Services Department, Workforce Development Division of Texas Workforce Commission Workforce Business Services Outreach & Customer Support today at (877) 463-1777 or Skills@twc.state.tx.us	
Secondary responsibility		
Need for coordination		
How Should it be Funded?		
Primary (lead) responsibility	This is funded by state benefits and incentives which include: state sales and use tax refunds It can also be funded by transferring of public buildings at or below market cost to companies, low interest loans, waving certain fees for qualifying enterprise zones	
Secondary responsibility		

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How Does It Connect?		
What other VNT issues are helped by this tool?	Increasing education in the surrounding community and giving the community a more viable workforce.	
What other VNT issues could be hurt by this tool?	Competing businesses for limited grant money	
How Should It Be Implemented?		
What will be done?	When will it happen?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first step is having the SDF paperwork filled out correctly and after that they are notified within 10 days if they have met all the required components or not. • Public Community Colleges, Public Technical Colleges, Texas Engineering Extension Service or a Community Based Organization only in partnership with the Public Community College or Technical College can receive grants or are considered to be eligible training providers 	<p>Proposals for the Skills Development Fund can be made at any time.</p> <p>There are 4 forms that must be filled out completely and they are available at the following link: http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdf_proposal.pdf</p>	
What Examples Can We Follow?		
North Texas Case Studies	CoServInc. CoServ Inc. in Corinth, Texas partnered with TWC and North Central Texas College for a \$161,845 Skills grant. Skills helped address a shortage of qualified professionals within the electrical industry. 143 employees trained as electrical engineers, meter readers, power line installers, and support staff	
Other Texas Case Studies	Northwest Texas Healthcare System Northwest Texas Healthcare System partnered with TWC and Amarillo College for a \$266,885 Skills grant. The project addressed a growing need for health care staff. Skills helped develop 15 certification courses and train 269 health care professionals	
Other U.S. Case Studies		
Supporting Research	The two Texas cases can be found along with more information on Skills Development Fund Website http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdfintro.html	
Related Information		
Acknowledgements		
Recognize the people who have provided assistance to VNT for this tool	Burns Development Group	