



**Consortium's Governing Body
Meeting Agenda
August 27, 2026**

**PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
CONSORTIUM'S GOVERNING BODY
2026 Meeting Calendar**

I want to thank you for your dedication and commitment to the people of the Texas Panhandle and know that I am very honored and grateful to be a part of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board!

We are providing you with the 2025 Consortium's Governing Body meeting schedule. The Body must meet a minimum of four times this year. However, there may be a rare occasion that necessitates having an additional meeting. This would only occur when a board action is necessary and time is a factor.

As always if you ever have questions or wish to discuss issues and opportunities, please give me a call.

Thank You!

Marin

February 26, 2026
May 28, 2026
August 27, 2026
December 10, 2026 (Tentatively)

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2026. Governing Body Members and individuals from the public may access the meeting in person at 415 S.W. 8th Avenue, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas. Lunch will be served to Members prior to the meeting.

In order to accommodate Governing Body Members who may want to access the meeting remotely, a hybrid link is provided pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127 with more than three counties in the State of Texas being represented on the Body. This notice complies with Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Open Meetings Act, Section 551.041 (Notice of Meeting Requirements); Section 551.043 (Time and Accessibility of Notice Requirements); Section 551.053 (Notice Requirements of a Political Subdivision Extending into Three or More Counties) and Section 551.127 (Videoconference Call). The notice has been filed at least three business days before the scheduled time of the meeting with the Secretary of State's Office, the Potter County Clerk's Office and has been posted in the Administrative Office of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.

A copy of the full agenda packet for this meeting can be found on the Workforce Solutions Panhandle's website at <https://wspanhandle.com/>

The Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body shall provide an opportunity for oral comments from the public during the meeting. Each person wishing to make a public comment shall be limited to three (3) minutes and limited to speaking once per comment period. Comments shall be directed to the Body as a whole. Individual Body members will not respond to questions. In the event that a group of persons supporting/opposing the same position desires to be heard, in the interest of time, a spokesperson shall be designated to express the group's position.

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

3. **MINUTES**

Consider the approval of the minutes of the May 28, 2026 meeting of the Governing Body.

4. **CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST**

5. **NEW APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Consider the appointment of a new member to serve on the Panhandle Workforce Development Board.

6. **ITEMS CONSIDERED AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Review of agenda items presented and concurrence with actions taken at the August 26, 2026 meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board. Body Members will be asked for a vote of concurrence on all items at the end of the presentation unless noted otherwise within an item.

Item WDB-(1). MINUTES

Minutes from the:

- a) Panhandle Workforce Development Board meeting held on May 27, 2026; and
- b) Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee meeting held on July 22, 2026.

No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(2). CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LISTS

- 1) Panhandle Workforce Development Board;
- 2) Panhandle Workforce Development Board Child Care Advisory Committee;
- 3) Panhandle Workforce Development Board Cybersecurity Council; and
- 4) Panhandle Workforce Development Board Executive Committee.

No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(3). APPOINTMENT TO CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Board members are asked to consider the appointment of a new member to serve on the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(4). REPORT ON MEETING OF CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A summary of the April 2026 meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(5). ANNUAL EMPLOYER AWARDS NOMINATIONS

The nominations for the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Annual Employer Awards will be presented. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(6). PROGRAM PRESENTATION – WIOA PROGRAM SERVICES

Jennifer Galloway, Training Services Program Manager with Workforce Solutions Panhandle, will provide a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program services overview. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(7). REPORTS ON GRANTS

A review of reports on the Panhandle's grants for October 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(8). LOCAL MONITORING REPORT

An update on monitoring activities. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(9). WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OPERATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY CONTRACT RENEWAL 2026-2027

Members will be asked to consider completion and execution of a contract renewal with Huxford Group, LLC to deliver workforce development and child care program services for the period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

Separate member vote on this item will be recognized.

Item WDB-(10). PRPC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BUDGET

Staff will present the Workforce Development Total Program Budget from the 2027 PRPC Strategic Work Program and Budget. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(11). CONTRACTOR'S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES

Huxford Group, LLC President and WSP Director, Mr. Trent Morris, will discuss recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(12). SUNSET ADVISORY COMMISSION REPORT

Staff will discuss the Sunset Advisory Commission's Report, for the 2026-2027 Review Cycle of the 90th Texas Legislative Session, of the Texas Workforce Commission, along with the Texas Workforce Investment Council, and the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Program. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(13). UPDATE ON HIGH DEMAND JOB TRAINING (HDJT) GRANT

The PWDB has been awarded the 2025-2026 HDJT Program grant in collaboration with the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) and the Independent School Districts of Amarillo (AmTech Career Academy), Bushland, Canyon, Highland Park, and River Road, has been awarded, with Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) grant funds of \$150,000 matching a \$150,000 contribution from the AEDC. Purchases of equipment and supplies to expand the schools' Career & Technology Education (CTE) programs have begun. No action by the Body is required.

Item WDB-(14). DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES

Workforce Development Director, Mr. Marin Rivas, will discuss recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Body is required.

7. **VOTE OF CONCURRENCE ON ITEMS CONSIDERED AT MEETING OF PWDB**
8. **FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**
9. **ADJOURN**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice complies with Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Open Meetings Act, Section 551.041 (Notice of Meeting Requirements); Section 551.043 (Time and Accessibility of Notice Requirements); and Section 551.053 (Notice Requirements of a Political Subdivision Extending into Four or More Counties). The notice has been filed at least three (3) business days before the scheduled time of the meeting with the Secretary of State's Office, the Potter County Clerk's Office and has been posted in the Administrative Office of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.

Posted this 20th day of August 2026, at 415 Southwest Eighth Avenue, Amarillo, Texas, at 12:00 p.m.



415 South West Eighth Avenue
P. O. Box 9257
Amarillo, Texas 79105
(806) 372-3381
(806) 373-3268 (fax)
www.theprpc.org

Leslie Hardin

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER / PROGRAM

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Relay Texas: 711



ITEM 3

CGB Minutes



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PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM'S GOVERNING BODY

Minutes

May 28, 2026

A meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body was held on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.

In order to accommodate Body's members who wanted to access the meeting remotely, a hybrid link was provided pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127 with more than three counties in the State of Texas being represented on the Panhandle Workforce Development Board. This notice complies with Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Open Meetings Act, Section 551.041 (Notice of Meeting Requirements); Section 551.043 (Time and Accessibility of Notice Requirements); Section 551.053 (Notice Requirements of a Political Subdivision Extending into Three or More Counties) and Section 551.127 (Videoconference Call). The notice was filed at least three business days before the scheduled time of the meeting with the Secretary of State's Office, the Potter County Clerk's Office and was posted in the Administrative Office of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC).

Body members and individuals from the public who desired to attend in person, accessed the meeting at the PRPC office at 415 S.W. 8th Avenue, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas.

Judge Irwin presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Cole Stanley, City of Amarillo
- Dan Looten, County of Carson
- Kim Jones, County of Childress
- Chris Porter, County of Gray
- Cindy Irwin, County of Hutchinson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Isabel "Izzy" Carrasco, County of Parmer
- Alicia Law, County of Sherman

OTHERS PRESENT:

Diana Green, Panhandle Regional Planning Commission; and Trent Morris, Workforce Solutions Panhandle.

STAFF PRESENT:

Gracie Aragon, Kathy Cabezuela, Ana Gonzalez, Leslie Hardin, Amanda Leal, Heather Reid and Marin Rivas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Judge Irwin called the meeting to order, and noted that a quorum was present.

2. INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3. MINUTES

Members considered the minutes from the March 19, 2026 meeting of the Governing Body. Judge Jones moved for approval. Judge Looten seconded the motion; the motion carried.

4. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST

This item was for informational purposes only. No action by the Body was required.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Members were asked to elect new Officers (Chair and Vice-Chair) for the coming year covering the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Judge Porter made the motion to elect Judge Looten to serve as Chair; Judge Jones seconded the motion; and the motion carried.

Judge Jones made the motion to elect Judge Porter to serve as Vice-Chair. Judge Looten seconded the motion; the motion carried.

6. APPOINTMENT / REAPPOINTMENTS OF MEMBERS TO THE PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Members were asked to consider the appointment of one new member and reappointments of fifteen current members to serve on the Panhandle Workforce Development Board. Judge Jones moved for approval. Judge Looten seconded the motion; the motion carried.

7. ITEMS CONSIDERED AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Members were asked to review agenda items presented and consider concurrence with actions taken at the May 27, 2026 meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board. Body Members were asked for a vote of concurrence on all items at the end of the presentation unless noted otherwise within an item.

Item WDB-(1). MINUTES

Minutes from the:

- a) Panhandle Workforce Development Board meeting held on February 25, 2026; and
- b) Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee meeting held on April 22, 2026.

No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(2). CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LISTS

Informational items only. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(3). ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Board members elected Ms. Wanda Boatman to continue to serve as the Board Chair and Mr. Kevin Caddell to continue to serve as Vice-Chair. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(4). APPOINTMENT TO CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Board members approved the appointment of Ms. Jill Goodrich to serve on the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(5). REPORT ON MEETING OF CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Staff presented a summary of the April 2026 meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(6). PROGRAM PRESENTATION – CHILD CARE

A summary of the presentation by members of the PWDB's Child Care Advisory Committee, on issues in child care from the perspective of local child care providers, was provided. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(7). REPORTS ON GRANTS

Staff presented reports on the Panhandle's grants for October 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(8). LOCAL MONITORING REPORT

Staff presented an update on monitoring activities. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(9). UPDATES TO PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD POLICY

Members were asked to consider proposed updates to current local PWDB policy:

- a) Child Care Services - Prevention, Detection, and Reporting of Suspected Fraud, Waste, Theft, and Program Abuse Cases; and Recovery of Improper Payments.

Judge Looten made the motion to approve the update; Mayor Stanley seconded; and the motion carried.

- b) Standards of Conduct, Open Government, and Conflict of Interest.

Mayor Stanley made the motion to approve the update; Judge Jones seconded; and the motion carried.

Item WDB-(10). CONTRACTOR'S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES

Huxford Group, LLC President and WSP Director, Mr. Trent Morris, discussed recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(11). UPDATE ON HIGH DEMAND JOB TRAINING (HDJT) GRANT

Members were updated that the PWDB has been awarded the 2025-2026 HDJT Program grant in collaboration with the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) and the Independent School Districts of Amarillo (AmTech Career Academy), Bushland, Canyon, Highland Park, and River Road, has been awarded, with Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) grant funds of \$150,000 matching a \$150,000 contribution from the AEDC. Purchases of equipment and supplies to expand the schools' Career & Technology Education (CTE) programs will begin once the final contract has been executed, expected in June. No action by the Body was required.

Item WDB-(12). DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES

Workforce Development Director, Mr. Marin Rivas, discussed recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Body was required.

8. VOTE OF CONCURRENCE ON ITEMS CONSIDERED AT MEETING OF PWDB

Judge Porter made the motion to concur with the Board's actions. Mayor Stanley seconded the motion; the motion carried.

9. FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Body, Judge Jones moved that the meeting adjourn. Mayor Stanley seconded the motion; and the meeting adjourned.



ITEM 4

CGB Membership List

**PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM'S GOVERNING BODY
CURRENT MEMBERSHIP
JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027**

CITY OF AMARILLO

The Honorable Cole Stanley
Mayor, City of Amarillo
P. O. Box 1971
Amarillo, Texas 79105-0001
(806) 378-3014
(806) 378-9394 fax
cole.stanley@amarillo.gov

**AREA I (DALLAM, HARTLEY,
MOORE, OLDHAM AND
SHERMAN COUNTIES)**

The Honorable Alicia Law
Judge, County of Sherman
P. O. Box 165
Stratford, Texas 79084-0165
(806) 366-2021
(806) 366-3011 fax
cojudge@co.sherman.tx.us

**AREA III (BRISCOE, CASTRO,
DEAF SMITH, PARMER AND
SWISHER COUNTIES)**

The Honorable Isabel "Izzy" Carrasco
Judge, County of Parmer
401 3rd Street
P.O. Box 506
Farwell, Texas 79325
(806) 481-3383
(806) 481-9548 fax
isabel.carrasco@parmercounty.texas.gov

**AREA V (CHILDRESS, COLLINGSWORTH,
DONLEY, GRAY, HALL AND
WHEELER COUNTIES)**

The Honorable Chris Porter **
Judge, County of Gray
205 N. Russell
Pampa, Texas 79065
(806) 669-8007
(806) 669-3048 fax
chris.porter@graycch.com

AT- LARGE

The Honorable Kim Jones
Judge, County of Childress
100 Avenue East NW, Suite #100
Courthouse Box 1
Childress, Texas 79201
(940) 937-2221
(940) 937-0166 fax
kimberly.jones@childresstx.us

**AREA II (HANSFORD, HEMPHILL,
HUTCHINSON, LIPSCOMB, OCHILTREE AND
ROBERTS COUNTIES)**

The Honorable Tim Glass
Judge, County of Hansford
16 Northwest Court Street
Spearman, Texas 79081
(806) 659-4100
(806) 659-4168 fax
judgeglass@hansfordcountytexas.com

**AREA IV (ARMSTRONG,
CARSON, POTTER AND
RANDALL COUNTIES)**

The Honorable Dan Looten *
Judge, County of Carson
P.O. Box 369
Panhandle, Texas 79068
(806) 537-3622
(806) 537-2244 fax
dan.looten@co.carson.tx.us

* Chairman

** Vice-Chairman



ITEM 5

Appointment to PWDB

APPOINTMENT TO THE PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
FOR JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2029

– NEW APPOINTMENT –

Labor Organizations

Mr. Ridge Dallas, Business Agent
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Service Techs Union
United Association (UA) Local 404
Amarillo, Texas



Item 6. WDB-(1) (a)

Workforce Development Board Minutes



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PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Minutes

May 27, 2026

The regular meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board was held at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

In order to accommodate Board members who wanted to access the meeting remotely, a hybrid link was provided pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127 with more than three counties in the State of Texas being represented on the Panhandle Workforce Development Board. This notice complies with Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Open Meetings Act, Section 551.041 (Notice of Meeting Requirements); Section 551.043 (Time and Accessibility of Notice Requirements); Section 551.053 (Notice Requirements of a Political Subdivision Extending into Three or More Counties) and Section 551.127 (Videoconference Call). The notice was filed at least three business days before the scheduled time of the meeting with the Secretary of State's Office, the Potter County Clerk's Office and was posted in the Administrative Office of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.

Board members and individuals from the public who desired to attend in person, accessed the meeting at Workforce Solutions Panhandle, 3120 Eddy Street, Amarillo, Randall County, Texas.

Ms. Wanda Boatman presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Heath Bentley, Hunting Titan, Inc.
- Wanda Boatman, Plains Dairy
- Kevin Caddell, Furniture Fashions, LTD
- Amy Collie, CNS Pantex
- Edward Dominguez, Triple D Heating and Air Conditioning
- Jill Goodrich, Opportunity School
- Kristi Hanes, Night & Day, Care & Play Inc.
- Lisa Lillard, Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- Jahnel McClain, Goodwill Industries of Northwest Texas
- Diana Mendez, International Aerospace Coatings (IAC)
- Amy Rambo, BSA Health System
- Charlie Rivas, Rivas Environmental Consultants, Inc.
- Paul Salazar, West Texas Electrical Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee
- Frank Sobey, Amarillo College
- Geneva Tiller, Texas Workforce Solutions Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Jason Vaden, Texas Workforce Commission
- Orval "Terry" Wheeler, Ace Pest Control
- Lisa White, Amarillo Public Library
- Magi York, Panhandle Community Services

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Francisco Apodaca, Apodaca Brothers
- Betty Bara, La Fiesta Grande
- Texas “Tex” Buckhaults, Clarendon College
- Sonja Clark, Bell Textron, Inc.
- Michelle Griffin, Amarillo National Bank-Borger Branch
- Crystal Hermesmeier, Shamrock Economic Development Corporation
- Chad Huseman, AmTech Career Academy
- John Roberts, Central South Carpenters Regional Council

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Hall, Amarillo College; Kim Winegeart, Community Day Care Center, Inc.; Omar Mendoza, Nikkies Care Club; Diana Green, Mike Peters, and Trenton Taylor, Panhandle Regional Planning Commission; Samantha Alexander, Phillip Flores, Ray Flores, Trent Morris, Shannon Rowell, April Slatter, and Tonya Young, Workforce Solutions Panhandle.

BOARD STAFF PRESENT:

Gracie Aragon, Kathy Cabezuela, Ana Gonzalez, Leslie Hardin, Amanda Leal, Heather Reid, and Marin Rivas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Boatman called the meeting to order noting that a quorum was present.

2. INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3. MINUTES

Members considered approval of the minutes from the Board’s February 25, 2026 meeting. Ms. York moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. McClain seconded the motion; the motion carried.

4. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LISTS

Informational items only. No action by the Board was required.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Members were asked to elect members to serve as officers through June 30, 2027. Mr. Salazar made the motion to elect Ms. Boatman to continue to serve as Chair and Mr. Caddell to continue to serve as Vice-Chair; Ms. Hanes seconded; and the motion carried. Ms. Boatman and Mr. Caddell abstained from the vote.

6. APPOINTMENT TO CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members were asked to consider the appointment of Ms. Goodrich to serve on the Panhandle Workforce Development Board’s Child Care Advisory Committee. Ms. White made the motion to approve the appointment; Mr. Caddell seconded; and the motion carried. Ms. Goodrich abstained from the vote.

7. REPORT ON MEETING OF CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members were provided with a summary of last month's meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee. No action by the Board was required.

8. PROGRAM PRESENTATION – CHILD CARE

Members of the PWDB's Child Care Advisory Committee discussed issues in child care from the perspective of local child care providers. No action by the Board was required.

9. REPORTS ON GRANTS

Staff presented reports on the Panhandle's grants for October 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026. No action by the Board was required.

10. LOCAL MONITORING REPORT

Members were updated on monitoring activities. No action by the Board was required.

11. UPDATES TO PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD POLICY

Members were asked to consider proposed updates to current local PWDB policy:

- a) Child Care Services - Prevention, Detection, and Reporting of Suspected Fraud, Waste, Theft, and Program Abuse Cases; and Recovery of Improper Payments.

Ms. York made the motion to approve the update; Ms. Lillard seconded; and the motion carried. Ms. Goodrich abstained from the vote.

- b) Standards of Conduct, Open Government, and Conflict of Interest.

Ms. Goodrich made the motion to approve the update; Mr. Dominguez seconded; and the motion carried.

12. CONTRACTOR'S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES

Mr. Trent Morris, Huxford Group, LLC President and Workforce Solutions Panhandle Director, discussed recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Board was required.

13. UPDATE ON HIGH DEMAND JOB TRAINING (HDJT) GRANT

Members were updated that the PWDB has been awarded the 2025-2026 HDJT Program grant in collaboration with the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) and the Independent School Districts of Amarillo (AmTech Career Academy), Bushland, Canyon, Highland Park, and River Road, has been awarded, with Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) grant funds of \$150,000 matching a \$150,000 contribution from the AEDC. Purchases of equipment and supplies to expand the schools' Career & Technology Education (CTE) programs will begin once the contract has been executed, expected in June.

No action by the Board was required.

14. DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON WORKFORCE ACTIVITIES

Mr. Marin Rivas discussed recent and upcoming regional workforce activities. No action by the Board was required.

15. FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

16. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Charlie Rivas moved that the meeting adjourn. Mr. Caddell seconded the motion; and the meeting adjourned.



Item 6. WDB-(1) (b)

Workforce Development Board

Child Care Advisory Committee Minutes



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PANHANDLE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee

Minutes
July 22, 2026

The regular meeting of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board's Child Care Advisory Committee was held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

In order to accommodate Committee members who wanted to access the meeting remotely, a hybrid link was provided pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.127 with more than three counties in the State of Texas being represented on the Panhandle Workforce Development Board. This notice complies with Texas Government Code Chapter 551, Open Meetings Act, Section 551.041 (Notice of Meeting Requirements); Section 551.043 (Time and Accessibility of Notice Requirements); Section 551.053 (Notice Requirements of a Political Subdivision Extending into Three or More Counties) and Section 551.127 (Videoconference Call). The notice was filed at least three business days before the scheduled time of the meeting with the Secretary of State's Office, the Potter County Clerk's Office and was posted in the Administrative Office of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.

Committee members and individuals from the public who desired to attend in person, accessed the meeting at Workforce Solutions Panhandle, 3120 Eddy Street, Amarillo, Randall County, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Gracie Aragon
- Karleigh Cross
- Wendy Garza
- Karron Gilbreath
- Jill Goodrich
- Kristi Hanes

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Irma Burney
- Victoria Hughes
- Kodie McManus
- Omar Mendoza
- Kim Winegeart

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cynthia Hixon, Workforce Solutions Panhandle
Trent Morris, Workforce Solutions Panhandle
April Slatter, Workforce Solutions Panhandle
Lesley Webb, Amarillo College
Rhonda McClung, HHSC Child Care Regulation

PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD STAFF PRESENT:

Amanda Leal
Heather Reid
Marin Rivas

1. CALL TO ORDER
Ms. Hanes called the meeting to order and noted that quorum was present.
2. INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
None.
3. MINUTES
Members considered the approval of the minutes from the Committee's April 22, 2026 meeting. Ms. Goodrich moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Garza seconded the motion; the motion carried.
4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER
Ms. Goodrich was introduced as a new member of the Committee. No action by the Committee was required.
5. APPOINTMENT TO THE CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Members were asked to consider the recommendation of appointing Lesley Webb to serve on the Committee as a Child Care Stakeholder. Ms. Goodrich moved to recommend the appointment of Ms. Webb to serve on the Committee. Ms. Hanes seconded the motion; the motion carried.
6. SCHEDULING NEXT MEETING
Members were asked to determine the next scheduled meeting date and time. Members agreed that the Committee meet on Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.
7. CHILD CARE PROVIDER UPDATE
Karron Gilbreath, Workforce Solutions Panhandle Provider Services Lead, provided an update on the Child Care Providers. No action by the Committee was required.
8. CHILD CARE PROGRAM PERFORMANCE UPDATE
April Slatter, Workforce Solutions Panhandle Child Care Services Program Manager, discussed the Child Care Program Performance. No action by the Committee was required.
9. CHILD CARE QUALITY ACTIVITIES
Cynthia Hixon, Workforce Solutions Panhandle Child Care Industry Support Specialist, provided an update on ongoing and upcoming Child Care Quality (CCQ) activities. No action by the Committee was required.
10. OPEN DISCUSSION
None.
11. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST
Informational item only. No action by the Committee was required.
12. FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
The Committee briefly discussed the Quad Agency Child Care Initiative and was informed that, once details regarding the next Quad Agency Commission meeting are available, they will be shared with all members who are interested in participating in the meeting on August 4, 2026.
13. ADJOURN
There being no further business to come before the Committee, Ms. Goodrich moved that the meeting adjourn. Ms. Garza seconded the motion; the meeting adjourned.



Item 6. WDB-(2)

Membership Lists

**PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
CURRENT MEMBERSHIP
JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027**

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Kristi Hanes *** / ***** / *****
Co-Owner/Director
Night & Day, Care & Play Inc.
2831 Mays Street
Amarillo, Texas 79109
(806) 352-2186 / (806) 322-0986 fax
nightandday@arn.net

Industry Represented: Child Care Services
Firm Size: 29 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Betty Bara
Co-Owner
La Fiesta Grande
4704 Van Winkle Drive
Amarillo, Texas 79119
(806) 376-3689 / (806) 355-2826 fax
bettybara@aol.com

Industry Represented: Restaurants
Firm Size: 84 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Amy Collie
Sr. Director, Human Resources
Pantex Plant
P. O. Box 30020
Amarillo, Texas 79120-0030
(806) 573-7575
amy.collie@pantex.doe.gov

Industry Represented: Ammunition Manufacturing
Firm Size: 4,703 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Sonja Clark
Site Leader
Bell Textron, Inc.
10201 Airport Blvd.
Amarillo, Texas 79111
(806) 467-4525
sclark@bellflight.com

Industry Represented: Aircraft Manufacturing
Firm Size: 5,264 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Diana Mendez
Office Manager / Senior Site Administrator
International Aerospace Coatings (IAC)
10801 Barker Street
Amarillo, Texas 79111
(806) 414-6413 Ext. 4011
diane.mendez@iac.aero

Industry Represented: Aviation Coating Services
Firm Size: 260 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Wanda Boatman * / ***
Employee Relations
Plains Dairy LLC
300 North Taylor Street
Amarillo, Texas 79107
(806) 374-0385
WBoatman@plainsdairy.com

Industry Represented: Dairy Product Manufacturing
Firm Size: 145 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA I - DALLAM, HARTLEY,
MOORE, OLDHAM AND SHERMAN COUNTIES)**

Mr. Kevin Caddell ** / *** / ****
Owner
Furniture Fashions, LTD
1603 Tennessee Blvd.
Dalhart, Texas 79022
(806) 244-5551
Kevin@furnfash.com

Industry Represented: Furniture Retail
Firm Size: 8 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA II - HANSFORD,
HEMPHILL, HUTCHINSON, LIPSCOMB,
OCHILTREE AND ROBERTS COUNTIES)**

Ms. Michelle Griffin ***
President – Borger Branch
Amarillo National Bank
P. O. Box 949
Borger, Texas 79008
(806) 275-5025 / (806) 274-4533 fax
michelle.griffin@anb.com

Industry Represented: Commercial Banking
Firm Size: 865 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA III - BRISCOE, CASTRO,
DEAF SMITH, PARMER AND SWISHER COUNTIES)**

Mr. Edward Dominguez
Owner/Operator
Triple D Heating and Air Conditioning
P. O. Box 1736
Hereford, Texas 79045
(806) 360-4463
tripleddheatingandac@gmail.com

Industry Represented: Plumbing/HVAC
Firm Size: 1 employee
Ethnicity/Gender: H/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA IV - ARMSTRONG,
CARSON, POTTER AND RANDALL COUNTIES)**

Ms. Amy Rambo
Employee Relations Consultant
Ardent Health Services
BSA Health System
1600 Wallace Blvd.
Amarillo, Texas 79106
(806) 212-2000
amy.rambo@bsahs.org

Industry Represented: Hospitals
Firm Size: 2,429 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2027

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA V - CHILDRESS,
COLLINGSWORTH, DONLEY, GRAY, HALL
AND WHEELER COUNTIES)**

Mr. Heath Bentley
Plant Manager - Perforating
Hunting Titan Inc.
2526 Mary Ellen
Pampa, Texas 79065
(469) 383-9689
Heath.Bentley@hunting-intl.com

Industry Represented: Oil & Gas
Equipment Manufacturing
Firm Size: 492 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

PRIVATE SECTOR (AT LARGE)

Mr. Orval "Terry" Wheeler *****
Co-Owner
Ace Pest Control
P.O. Box 31568
Amarillo, Texas 79120
(806) 607-6416
silverbird608@gmail.com

Industry Represented: Pest Control
Firm Size: 14 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

PRIVATE SECTOR (AT LARGE)

Mr. Charlie Rivas ***
Chief Executive Officer
Rivas Environmental Consultants
16001 I27 South
Amarillo, Texas 79118
(806) 622-2255 / (806) 622-2257 fax
rivas@arn.net

Industry Represented: Remediation Services
Firm Size: 0 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: H/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

PRIVATE SECTOR (AT LARGE)

Mr. Francisco Apodaca
Co-Owner
Apodaca Brothers
801 W. Francis Ave.
Pampa, TX 79065
(806) 669-1169 / (806) 669-1169
12280ehwy60@gmail.com

Industry Represented: Plumbing/HVAC
Firm Size: 8 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: H/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2027

CHILD CARE WORKFORCE

Ms. Jill Goodrich ***** / *****
Executive Director
Opportunity School
1100 S. Harrison
Amarillo, Texas 79101
(806) 373-4245
jillgoodrich@opportunityschool.com

Industry Represented: Child Care Services
Firm Size: 70 employees
Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Crystal Hermesmeier
Economic Development Director
Shamrock Economic Development Corporation
207 N. Main Street
Shamrock, TX 79079
(806) 256-2516
shamrockedc@gmail.com

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Chad Huseman
Principal
AmTech Career Academy
3601 Plains Blvd.
Amarillo, Texas 79102
(806) 326-1963
chad.huseman@amaisd.org

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Texas D. "Tex" Buckhaults *** / ****
President
Clarendon College
P. O. Box 968
Clarendon, Texas 79226
(806) 874-3571
Tex.Buckhaults@cctx.edu

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

ADULT BASIC AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Dr. Frank Sobey ***
VP of Academic Affairs
Amarillo College
P. O. Box 447
Amarillo, Texas 79178
(806) 282-6811
fesobey@actx.edu

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

LITERACY ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Lisa White
Literacy Coordinator
Amarillo Public Library
413 E. 4th
Amarillo, Texas 79101
(806) 378-3043 / (806) 378-9327 fax
lisa.white@amarillolibrary.org

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Geneva Tiller
VR Supervisor
Texas Workforce Solutions
Vocational Rehabilitation Services
3120 Eddy St.
Amarillo, TX 79106
(806) 372-5521
geneva.tiller@twc.texas.gov

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Magi York ****
Executive Director
Panhandle Community Services
1309 West Eighth Avenue
Amarillo, Texas 79120-2150
(806) 342-6150 / (806) 373-8143
magi.york@pcsvcs.org

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Jahnel McClain
Regional Manager of Workforce Development
Goodwill Industries of Northwest Texas
2271 SE 27th Ave.
Amarillo, Texas 79103
(806) 331-6890 ext. 321 / (806) 331-7207 fax
jmccclain@ginwtx.org

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. Paul Salazar ****
Training Director, JATC
West Texas Electrical Joint Apprenticeship
& Training Committee
102 South Bowie Street
Amarillo, Texas 79106
(806) 372-1581 / (806) 331-6718 fax
psalazarjatc@wtxjatc.org

Ethnicity/Gender: H/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2027

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

(VACANT)

Ethnicity/Gender:
Term Expires:

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

Mr. Jason Vaden
Project Coordinator
Texas Workforce Commission
101 E. 15th St.
Austin, Texas 78778
(512) 936-3442
jason.vaden@twc.texas.gov

Ethnicity/Gender: W/M
Term Expires: June 30, 2029

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Ms. Lisa Lillard
Program Manager
Texas Health and Human Services Commission
1509 N. Banks
Pampa, Texas 79065
(806) 273-4446
Lisa.Lillard@hhs.texas.gov

Ethnicity/Gender: W/F
Term Expires: June 30, 2028

* Chairman
** Vice Chairman
*** Executive Committee Member
**** Cybersecurity Council Member
***** Child Care Advisory Committee Member
***** Also serves as Veterans Representative
***** Also serves as Child Care Representative

**PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (PWDB)
CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027**

**LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTER
PARTICIPATING IN CCS**

Ms. Kim Winegeart *
Co-Owner/Director
Community Day Care Center, Inc.
1100 Gwendolen Avenue
Pampa, Texas 79065
(806) 665-0735
cdccbaby@gmail.com

**LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTER
PARTICIPATING IN CCS**

Ms. Kristi Hanes **
Co-Owner/Director
Night & Day, Care & Play Inc.
2831 Mays Street
Amarillo, Texas 79109
(806) 352-2186 / (806) 322-0986 fax
nightandday@arn.net

**LICENSED/REGISTERED CHILD CARE HOME
PARTICIPATING IN CCS**

Ms. Jill Goodrich
Executive Director
Opportunity School
1100 S. Harrison
Amarillo, Texas 79101
(806) 373-4245
jillgoodrich@opportunitieschool.com

**LICENSED/REGISTERED CHILD CARE HOME
PARTICIPATING IN CCS**

Mr. Omar Mendoza
Owner/Director
Nikkies Care Club LCCH
81 N. Maryland St.
Amarillo, Texas 79106
(619) 964-1960
nikkiescareclub@gmail.com

**CURRENT OR FORMER
CHILD CARE FAMILY**

Ms. Wendy Garza
Current/Former CCS Family
(806) 471-1311
wendygarza82@yahoo.com

PWDB CHILD CARE SERVICES CONTRACTOR

Ms. Karron Gilbreath
Lead Provider Services Specialist
Workforce Solutions Panhandle
3120 Eddy Street
Amarillo, Texas 79106
(806) 350-1726
kgilbreath@wspanhandle.com

PWDB STAFF

Ms. Gracie Aragon
Workforce Development Program Specialist
Panhandle Regional Planning Commission
415 Southwest 8th Avenue
Amarillo, Texas 79105
(806) 372-3381
garagon@theprpc.org

CHILD CARE STAKEHOLDER

Ms. Irma Burney
Teacher
Texas Premier Childcare at Amarillo Netplex
3723 SW 58th Ave
Amarillo, Texas 79110
(806) 640-2874
irmab@texaspremierchildcare.com

CHILD CARE STAKEHOLDER

Ms. Karleigh Cross
Teacher
Opportunity School
1100 S Harrison
Amarillo, Texas 79101
(806) 420-4365
karleighcross@opportunitieschool.com

CHILD CARE STAKEHOLDER

Ms. Victoria Hughes
Operation First Five Facilitator
& Community Organizer
Operation First Five-Amarillo
301 South Polk Street, Suite 740
Amarillo, Texas 79101
(806) 683-4248
victoriahughes012@gmail.com

CHILD CARE STAKEHOLDER

Ms. Kodie McManus
Daycare Child Care Regulation Inspector V
Child Care Regulation Texas Health & Human Svcs
28 Western Plaza Drive
Amarillo, Texas 79109
(806) 570-7553
Kodie.Mcmanus@hhs.texas.gov

* Chairman

** Vice-Chairman

The Cybersecurity Council will be comprised of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson and, at least one additional member with an interest and/or expertise in IT and cybersecurity-related issues, who are willing to serve on the Cybersecurity Council, and are elected by the Panhandle Workforce Development Board (PWDB) in an Open Public Meeting. At the discretion of the Chairperson, the Council may act on behalf of the PWDB on matters requiring such prompt action that the Board cannot be convened for a special meeting. Such actions will be subject to ratification by the Board.

PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
CYBERSECURITY COUNCIL

FOR JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Texas D. “Tex” Buckhaults *
President
Clarendon College
Clarendon, Texas
Term Expires: June 30, 2027

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Magi York **
Executive Director
Panhandle Community Services
Amarillo, Texas
Term Expires: June 30, 2027

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA I - DALLAM, HARTLEY,
MOORE, OLDHAM AND SHERMAN COUNTIES)**

Mr. Kevin Caddell
Owner
Furniture Fashions, LTD
Dalhart, Texas
Term Expires: June 30, 2027

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. Paul Salazar
Training Director, JATC
West Texas Electrical Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee
Amarillo, Texas
Term Expires: June 30, 2027

* Denotes the member selected to serve as Chairperson

** Denotes the member selected to serve as Vice Chairperson

An Executive Committee will be comprised of the Board's Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and five additional members appointed by the Chairperson, giving consideration to a balanced representation of the Board as a whole. The Executive Committee will identify, analyze and develop recommendations on items, issues and initiatives as deemed appropriate by the Chairperson. At the discretion of the Chairperson, the Executive Committee may act on behalf of the Board on matters requiring such prompt action that the Board cannot be convened for a special meeting. Such actions will be subject to ratification by the Board.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
FOR JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027

– CHAIR –

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Wanda Boatman, Employee Relations
Plains Dairy, LLC
Amarillo, Texas

– VICE CHAIR –

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA I – DALLAM, HARTLEY, MOORE, OLDHAM, AND SHERMAN
COUNTIES)**

Mr. Kevin Caddell, Owner
Furniture Fashions, LTD
Dalhart, Texas

– CHAIR APPOINTMENTS –

ADULT BASIC AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Dr. Frank Sobey, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Amarillo College
Amarillo, Texas

POST- SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Texas D. “Tex” Buckhaults, President
Clarendon College
Clarendon, Texas

**PRIVATE SECTOR (AREA II - HANSFORD, HEMPHILL, HUTCHINSON,
LIPSCOMB, OCHILTREE AND ROBERTS COUNTIES)**

Ms. Michelle Griffin, President
Amarillo National Bank – Borger Branch
Borger, Texas

PRIVATE SECTOR (CITY OF AMARILLO)

Ms. Kristi Hanes, Co-Owner/Director
Night & Day, Care & Play, Inc.
Amarillo, Texas

PRIVATE SECTOR – AT LARGE

Mr. Charlie Rivas, Chief Executive Officer
Rivas Environmental Consultants
Amarillo, Texas



Item 6. WDB-(3)

Appointment of new member for PWDB Child Care Advisory Committee

APPOINTMENT TO THE
PANHANDLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S
CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

– PROPOSED NEW MEMBER –

Representative of Child Care Stakeholder

Ms. Lesley Webb
Faculty/Child Development Program Coordinator & Instructor
Amarillo College
Amarillo, Texas



6. WDB-(5)

Annual Employer Awards Nominations

Award	Company	City
Local Employer of Excellence	Phillips 66 Borger Refinery	Borger
Large Employer of the Year	Austin Hose	Amarillo
Small Employer of the Year	Midwest Compressor Systems	Pampa
HireAbility Employer of the Year	NWTHS	Amarillo
All-Star College of the Year	Amarillo College	Amarillo

2026 Texas Workforce Commission Annual Conference Local Employer of Excellence (LEOE) Award

The LEOE award honors one private-sector employer in each local workforce development area (workforce area) whose efforts and initiatives, in relationship with the Texas workforce system, have had a positive effect on workers, the community, and other employers. Nominations should recognize an employer that, as a customer of its Local Workforce Development Board (Board), created or used innovative approaches to support the Texas workforce system's mission statement and helped ensure that Texas remains economically competitive. Nominations should describe the employer's involvement with the Texas workforce system and how this partnership benefited its workforce area.

For a century, Phillips 66 Borger Refinery has been a driving force behind the Texas Panhandle's economy and a leader in developing the skilled workforce that powers the region's energy industry. Since opening in 1926, the refinery has provided high-quality careers while continually investing in its employees, the community, and the future of workforce development. Today, approximately 672 employees work at the Borger Refinery, making it one of Hutchinson County's largest employers.

Rather than waiting for skilled workers to become available, Phillips 66 helps develop them. The refinery partnered with Frank Phillips College, Workforce Solutions Panhandle, the Borger Economic Development Corporation, and the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission to establish a Process Technology Certification Program through a High Demand Jobs Training Grant. The partnership combined local and state resources to invest approximately \$180,000 in industry training equipment, creating a pathway for students to prepare for high-demand refinery careers with starting wages ranging from approximately \$25 to \$45 per hour.

Phillips 66 continues to invest in its employees through ongoing technical training, refinery-specific instruction, safety education, and professional development. Employees continually build new skills as technology, equipment, and industry standards evolve. The company's recent \$1.4 billion investment to become the sole owner of the Borger Refinery also reflects its confidence in the future of the refinery, its workforce, and the Texas Panhandle.

The Panhandle Workforce Development Board proudly recognizes Phillips 66 Borger Refinery as its 2026 Local Employer of Excellence because it strengthens the workforce through meaningful partnerships, creates opportunities for local residents to build rewarding careers, and continues investing in the people and communities that keep Texas competitive.

2026 Texas Workforce Commission Annual Conference Large Employer of the Year Award

The Large Employer of the Year Award honors a large (100 employees or more) private-sector employer whose efforts and initiatives have had an extraordinary effect on the state of Texas, workers, other employers, and the communities in which the employer does business. Nominations should recognize a large employer that is a customer of the Texas workforce system and has created or used innovative approaches to best support the Texas workforce system to remain competitive in the global economy.

The Panhandle Workforce Development Board selected Austin Hose as its 2026 Large Employer of the Year because the company continues to invest in the Texas Panhandle while creating opportunities for the people who live here. As Austin Hose has grown into a national company with 14 locations, it has kept its corporate headquarters in Amarillo and continued expanding its workforce in the region.

That commitment is evident in the company's new 100,000-square-foot headquarters in Amarillo. The investment strengthened Austin Hose's operations while adding 46 positions at the headquarters, creating new employment opportunities and reinforcing the company's long-term confidence in the Panhandle.

Austin Hose takes a long-term approach to workforce development by investing in employees from their first day on the job and continuing that investment throughout their careers. Every employee completes training through Austin Skills, the company's internal learning platform, which provides standardized instruction in onboarding, safety, operations, product knowledge, and job-specific skills. Austin Hose supports continued professional growth through tuition reimbursement, leadership development, paid industry certifications, and paid time for employees to complete certification requirements. Every branch maintains the NAHAD Hose Safety Institute (HSI) Designation, with approximately 90 percent of the company's hose builders and sales team holding certifications in hydraulic, industrial, composite, and corrugated metal hose applications.

Austin Hose also dedicates staff and resources to employee development through a Training, Safety & Quality Coordinator who oversees training, safety, and quality initiatives across the organization. The company's commitment to developing its workforce is reflected in its leadership team. The Chief Executive Officer began as an order puller in the warehouse, the Chief Operating Officer advanced from a graphic design role, and other leaders have progressed from entry-level sales positions into executive leadership. These examples demonstrate that employee development is an ongoing practice, not a one-time initiative.

Beyond its own workforce, Austin Hose partners with Workforce Solutions Panhandle by posting employment opportunities through WorkInTexas.com and participating in job fairs and hiring events. The company also works with Amarillo College through the Advanced Manufacturing Alliance, hires welding graduates, hosts IT interns, and has transitioned interns into full-time employment.

Austin Hose invests time, personnel, and financial resources each year to recruit, train, and retain a skilled workforce. These efforts help prepare employees for long-term careers while strengthening the pipeline of skilled workers needed to support manufacturing, agriculture, energy, construction, and other industries across the Texas Panhandle.

Austin Hose further strengthens the workforce pipeline through its partnership with Amarillo College. By participating in the Advanced Manufacturing Alliance, hiring welding graduates, hosting IT interns, and transitioning interns into permanent employment, the company helps students move from education into the workforce while ensuring local employers have access to skilled talent.

Austin Hose has been part of the Texas Panhandle community for nearly six decades and has maintained a strong tradition of giving back to the communities it serves. As the company has grown nationally, it has continued investing its time, resources, and support in local organizations and causes that improve the lives of area residents.

Austin Hose supports a wide range of nonprofit organizations, schools, youth programs, and community events. One organization especially important to the company is Amarillo Children's Home, which Austin Hose supports through sponsorships, donations, and participation in fundraising events. The company also supports Mission Amarillo and its efforts to assist families in need, including programs that provide support to single mothers and children.

The company invests in local schools by providing classroom gifts, sponsoring school activities, and supplying Austin Hose school supplies for students. Austin Hose also supports youth development through contributions to 4-H, FFA, Little League, and high school athletics, helping provide opportunities for young people throughout the region.

Austin Hose proudly supports the Boys Ranch Rodeo, local Veterans of Foreign Wars programs, and first responders. With a member of its sales team serving as a firefighter, supporting first responders is especially meaningful to the company.

Austin Hose continues to make a measurable impact on the Texas Panhandle through business growth, job creation, and workforce investment. During the past 12 months, the company hired 147 employees across its operations, including 36 in Amarillo. The recent expansion of its Amarillo headquarters increased employment at that location by 46 positions, bringing the headquarters workforce to 95 employees.

Every Austin Hose branch maintains the NAHAD Hose Safety Institute (HSI) Designation, and approximately 90 percent of the company's hose builders and sales team hold certifications in hydraulic, industrial, composite, and corrugated metal hose applications.

The company also offers competitive benefits that support employees both personally and professionally. After one year of service, employees receive a generous 120-hour Bank of Hours. Austin Hose also provides tuition reimbursement and allows employees to adjust their work schedules so they can attend classes during the day, making it easier to continue their education while maintaining full-time employment.

Combined with a growing presence in the Texas Panhandle, a modern headquarters, and a workplace that values employee development, Austin Hose offers job seekers the opportunity to join a stable company where they can learn, grow, and build a lasting career.

2026 Texas Workforce Commission Annual Conference Small Employer of the Year Award

The Small Employer of the Year Award honors a small (fewer than 100 employees) private-sector employer whose efforts and initiatives have had an extraordinary effect on the state of Texas, workers, other employers, and the communities in which the employer does business.

For more than four decades, Midwest Compressor Systems has helped keep the Texas Panhandle's energy industry moving while creating skilled career opportunities in Pampa. The company manufactures, installs, and services natural gas booster compressors and vacuum pumps that help move natural gas from the wellhead to processing facilities and transmission pipelines. With 27 employees, Midwest Compressor Systems plays an important role in both the regional economy and the energy industry that powers Texas.

Midwest Compressor Systems also works with Workforce Solutions Panhandle and Amarillo College to help develop the next generation of skilled workers. The company recruits through WorkInTexas.com, participates in hiring events, provides welding students with opportunities to gain real-world experience, and supports career and technical education by working with local educators. These partnerships help connect students and job seekers with careers that are essential to the Texas Panhandle's economy.

Just as important is the company's culture. Employees are recognized for their contributions, rewarded for meeting production and safety goals, and encouraged to continue learning throughout their careers. Those investments create a workplace where employees can grow professionally while helping the company meet the changing needs of the energy industry.

Midwest Compressor Systems supports the Texas workforce system by investing in employee development, partnering with workforce and education organizations, and continuously improving the way it trains and supports its workforce. Although the company employs just 27 people, it dedicates significant time and resources to helping employees build new skills and prepare for long-term careers.

Training is an ongoing part of the company's operations rather than a one-time event. Employees receive regular safety training, including recent H2S response training to prepare field technicians for emergency situations. Technicians also participate in Ariel product training and attend industry programs such as the University of Oklahoma Gas Compressor Short Course to strengthen their technical knowledge. In addition, Midwest Compressor Systems invests in its supervisors and sales team through leadership development with Amarillo-based consultant Jody Holland, helping employees grow into leadership roles as the company continues to expand.

Midwest Compressor Systems looks beyond training to improve the way work is performed. Over the past year, the company has implemented standardized operating procedures, enhanced leadership accountability, introduced field maintenance software, and is deploying telemetry technology to improve equipment management, preventive maintenance, and customer service. The company also worked with the Texas Panhandle Manufacturing Alliance to evaluate shop workflow and identify practical improvements that increased efficiency.

Its partnership with Amarillo College strengthens the pipeline of future workers by giving welding students exposure to real manufacturing environments and helping ensure technical education reflects current industry needs. Company leadership also supports the college by participating in the interview process for welding instructor candidates, providing employers with a voice in preparing tomorrow's workforce.

The company's investment in employee development also benefits the workforce system long after an employee is hired. Ongoing safety training, technical instruction, leadership development, and continuing education help employees build skills throughout their careers rather than stopping after onboarding. As employees gain experience and move into positions with greater responsibility, the company creates opportunities for others entering the workforce.

Midwest Compressor Systems has also supported youth activities in the Pampa area, including local youth soccer, recognizing the importance of investing in the next generation. Through its daily operations, the company also contributes to the economic health of Gray County by manufacturing equipment locally and providing field service that helps energy producers keep natural gas moving safely and reliably. Reliable energy production supports businesses, jobs, and communities throughout the Texas Panhandle.

The company also demonstrates how small manufacturers can take advantage of resources that are already available. Working with Workforce Solutions Panhandle, Amarillo College, the Texas Panhandle Manufacturing Alliance, and OSHCON has helped Midwest Compressor Systems strengthen its workforce, improve operations, and enhance workplace safety. These partnerships provide a practical model that other employers can follow to improve their businesses while helping build a stronger workforce in their own communities.

Midwest Compressor Systems is also implementing telemetry technology that provides customers with real-time insights into compressor performance, allowing potential issues to be identified earlier while improving equipment reliability and reducing downtime.

Employee development has remained a priority throughout these improvements. Field technicians have completed specialized H₂S safety training, preparing them to respond safely in emergency situations, while additional technical training through Ariel and the University of Oklahoma Gas Compressor Short Course continues to expand employee knowledge and skills. Leadership development provided through Jody Holland helps supervisors and sales leaders build the skills needed to support continued company growth.

The company's field service team also plays an important role in the regional economy. By providing preventive maintenance, repairs, overhauls, and operational support for natural gas compression equipment, Midwest Compressor Systems helps producers keep natural gas flowing from the wellhead to processing facilities and transmission pipelines. Reliable equipment means less downtime for customers and supports the energy production that drives jobs, businesses, and economic activity across the Texas Panhandle.

As an active participant in the Texas Panhandle Manufacturing Alliance, Midwest Compressor Systems continues looking for ways to improve its operations while sharing ideas with other manufacturers. Through its work with TPMA, the company partnered with Dustin Delano to evaluate shop operations and identify practical changes that improved workflow and efficiency. Midwest Compressor Systems has also worked with OSHCON to strengthen workplace safety and employee training.

Midwest Compressor Systems also invests in its future by investing in its people. Employees work with modern technology, receive training on new equipment and systems, and are encouraged to continue developing as the company grows. As new processes and technologies are introduced, employees grow alongside them.

For job seekers looking for a company where their work is appreciated, their skills continue to grow, and they can make a meaningful contribution to an important Texas industry, Midwest Compressor Systems offers an opportunity to build a rewarding long-term career.

2026 Texas Workforce Commission Annual Conference HireAbility Employer of the Year Award

The HireAbility Employer of the Year Award honors a private-sector employer that has positively impacted the state of Texas, workers, other employers, and the communities in which the employer does business by promoting successful employment opportunities for talented and dedicated Texans with disabilities. The nomination highlights initiatives including, but not limited to, the following:

- Recruiting and hiring practices that promote inclusivity and attract qualified job seekers with disabilities
- Employer policies that encourage disability self-disclosure in the workplace
- Policies that support and advance employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities
- Inclusive training and retraining practices
- Programs and benefits designed to recruit qualified workers with disabilities

Northwest Texas Healthcare System has built a workplace where individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to obtain meaningful employment, develop professionally, and build long-term careers. The Panhandle Workforce Development Board, in coordination with Workforce Solutions Panhandle Vocational Rehabilitation Services, proudly nominates Northwest Texas Healthcare System as the 2026 HireAbility Employer of the Year because disability inclusion is embedded in the hospital's workforce culture rather than treated as a separate initiative.

The hospital focuses on identifying each employee's skills, abilities, and potential while providing reasonable accommodations and workplace support that allow employees to succeed. This commitment has resulted in approximately 10 percent of Northwest's workforce voluntarily disclosing a disability, reflecting an environment where employees feel supported, valued, and comfortable bringing their authentic selves to work.

Northwest's commitment extends beyond hiring. Employees with disabilities contribute throughout the hospital in clinical, administrative, and operational roles while receiving opportunities for continued learning, mentoring, and career growth. The hospital also works alongside community organizations that prepare job seekers with disabilities for employment, helping create pathways that connect qualified candidates with meaningful careers in healthcare.

Northwest Texas Healthcare System has developed a recruitment strategy that emphasizes partnerships, accessibility, and the removal of barriers that often prevent qualified individuals with disabilities from entering the workforce. Rather than relying solely on traditional recruiting methods, the hospital works closely with organizations that specialize in connecting skilled job seekers with inclusive employers.

The hospital maintains long-standing relationships with Workforce Solutions Panhandle Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Quest Employment Services to identify qualified applicants whose skills align with workforce needs across the organization. These partnerships allow Northwest to connect with candidates who possess the abilities, motivation, and potential to succeed in a healthcare environment while ensuring applicants have access to the support services they may need during the hiring process.

The hospital's recruitment efforts are strengthened by its reputation as an inclusive employer. Through years of successfully hiring, supporting, and retaining employees with disabilities, Northwest has become an employer of choice for many job seekers seeking a workplace where they can build rewarding careers and contribute their talents. This reputation, combined with strong community partnerships and an inclusive hiring philosophy, continues to attract qualified candidates and strengthen the hospital's workforce.

Northwest Texas Healthcare System has found that hiring individuals with disabilities strengthens its workforce in meaningful ways. Employees with disabilities contribute valuable skills, strong work ethics, diverse perspectives, and a commitment to providing exceptional care and service. Their contributions support the hospital's mission while helping create a workplace that reflects the community it serves.

Hiring individuals with disabilities has also positively influenced the hospital's workforce culture. Employees and supervisors gain experience working alongside colleagues with different backgrounds and abilities, reinforcing collaboration, problem-solving, and mutual respect across departments. These experiences strengthen teams while reinforcing Northwest's commitment to delivering compassionate, patient-centered care.

Northwest's inclusive employment practices have also enhanced its reputation as an employer of choice throughout the Texas Panhandle. Workforce partners, educators, job seekers, and community organizations recognize the hospital as an employer that values talent, removes barriers to employment, and invests in employee success. That reputation continues to attract qualified applicants while strengthening the hospital's ability to recruit and retain a skilled workforce.

One of the hospital's most impactful initiatives is its participation in Project SEARCH, a nationally recognized transition-to-work program that prepares young adults with disabilities for competitive, integrated employment. Through the program, participants complete a series of internships in multiple hospital departments while receiving classroom instruction, workplace coaching, and mentoring. Each rotation allows participants to develop technical skills, strengthen workplace communication, build confidence, and explore career interests in a real healthcare environment.

Northwest's commitment to career development continues after employees are hired. Team members with disabilities have opportunities to expand their skills, assume new responsibilities, and pursue advancement within the organization with the support of supervisors who are committed to employee success.

Northwest Texas Healthcare System recognizes that expanding employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities requires strong partnerships. The hospital works closely with Workforce Solutions Panhandle Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Quest Employment Services, Project SEARCH, local school districts, educators, and other community organizations to help prepare qualified job seekers for competitive employment.

Northwest's success demonstrates that inclusive hiring is more than a community service. It is a practical workforce strategy that benefits employees, employers, and the communities they serve.

2026 Texas Workforce Commission Annual Conference

All-Star College of the Year Award

The All-Star College of the Year Award honors a community college, technical college, or Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service program that has improved the Texas workforce system and its local community by identifying, creating, and contributing to worker skills enhancement and training that best supports business needs. This higher-education partner focuses on skills gaps and uses innovative approaches to best support the Texas workforce to remain economically competitive.

The Panhandle Workforce Development Board proudly nominates Amarillo College as the 2026 All-Star College of the Year because it has become one of the Texas Panhandle's most trusted workforce partners. Employers rely on the college to help solve workforce challenges by developing customized training, preparing students for high-demand careers, and strengthening the skills of incumbent workers.

Amarillo College begins by listening to employers. Through advisory committees, the Advanced Manufacturing Alliance, and ongoing collaboration with Workforce Solutions Panhandle, businesses identify workforce needs and help shape the training students receive. As industry changes, the college adapts programs to ensure graduates enter the workforce with current technical skills and practical experience.

The college supports employers through Skills Development Fund grants, customized contract training, apprenticeships, industry-recognized credentials, and work-based learning opportunities that connect education directly to employment. Students gain valuable experience while employers develop the skilled workforce needed to remain competitive.

Amarillo College's partnership with Workforce Solutions Panhandle further expands these opportunities through employer outreach, grant-funded training, Career Signing Days, career fairs, internships, and other workforce initiatives that connect businesses with future employees. During the past year alone, nearly 200 employers participated in workforce events hosted with Amarillo College, connecting almost 1,000 students and job seekers with employment opportunities.

Amarillo College has built its workforce programs around a simple idea: employers should help shape the training that prepares their future workforce. Rather than creating programs in isolation, the college asks employers what skills are needed, develops training around those needs, and updates programs as industries evolve.

This approach can be seen throughout the college's workforce initiatives. Employers serve on advisory committees, participate in the Advanced Manufacturing Alliance, provide equipment and technical expertise, and help ensure students learn the same technologies and processes they will encounter on the job.

The college also responds quickly when employers need specialized training. Through Skills Development Fund grants, Skills for Small Business grants, customized contract training, apprenticeships, and industry-recognized credentials, Amarillo College develops training tailored to individual employers instead of relying on one-size-fits-all programs.

Innovation extends beyond the classroom. The Innovation Outpost has become a regional resource for workforce training, providing professional development and customized instruction for businesses throughout the Texas Panhandle. Students also connect directly with employers through internships, Career Signing Days, industry-specific career fairs, and work-based learning experiences that begin long before graduation.

The college provides customized training for employers across advanced manufacturing, healthcare, aviation, transportation, construction, energy, and other high-demand industries. Through Skills Development Fund grants, Skills for Small Business grants, customized contract training, and apprenticeships, employers can strengthen the skills of their existing workforce while preparing new employees for long-term success.

One recent example is International Aerospace Coatings' expansion at Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport. As the company constructs a new \$27 million widebody aircraft paint hangar and adds 65 new jobs, Amarillo College is providing grant-funded customized training to help prepare employees for the expanded operation. The project supports one of Amarillo's largest aerospace employers and helps ensure the workforce is ready as the new facility becomes operational.

Working alongside Workforce Solutions Panhandle and regional employers, Amarillo College helps students move confidently from the classroom into rewarding careers while providing businesses with a dependable source of skilled talent. During the January 2025 through December 2025 reporting period, Amarillo College continued delivering customized workforce training through active Skills Development Fund projects that addressed employer needs across the Texas Panhandle.

One of those projects included a \$166,000 Skills Development Fund grant awarded in partnership with International Aerospace Coatings (IAC). The grant provides customized training for 89 employees as IAC expands its Amarillo operation with the construction of a new \$27 million widebody aircraft paint hangar at Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport. The expansion will create 65 new jobs, increase IAC's Amarillo workforce to more than 200 employees, and further strengthen Amarillo's position as a leading aerospace maintenance and aircraft refinishing center. From January 2025 through December 2025:

- Students enrolled: 89
- Students completing training: Training remained in progress during the reporting period.

The Skills Development Fund allowed Amarillo College to begin training employees while construction of the new facility was underway, helping International Aerospace Coatings prepare its workforce in advance of the hangar opening and continued growth in Amarillo.

Working with Workforce Solutions Panhandle, Amarillo College administers Skills Development Fund grants, Skills for Small Business grants, Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) grants, and employer recruitment activities that help businesses develop the skilled workforce they need. During the reporting period, Amarillo College and Workforce Solutions Panhandle partnered to host nine career fairs and Career Signing Day events involving 192 employers and 989 students and job seekers.

By providing customized training, preparing students for high-demand careers, and helping incumbent workers develop new skills, the college supports both existing employers and companies investing in the region.

The college has earned the trust of employers by consistently delivering training that reflects current industry practices and by adapting quickly as workforce needs change. Whether supporting major business expansions, helping incumbent workers develop new skills, or preparing students for their first careers, Amarillo College focuses on practical solutions that benefit employers and workers alike.

The partnership between Amarillo College, Workforce Solutions Panhandle, employers, and community organizations has created opportunities that strengthen businesses, support students, and contribute to the long-term success of the Texas Panhandle. Those results make Amarillo College a deserving recipient of the 2026 All-Star College of the Year Award.



**No Monthly Reporting Information
has been made available
to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board
from the Texas Workforce Commission
since April 30, 2026
as of the printing of the Agenda
prior to the meeting.
The most current information available
will be provided to Members
at the Meeting
in an Addendum to this Item.**

6. WDB-(7)

Board Report on Grants

PROGRAMS

CHILDCARESERVICES

Our *Child Care/Formula and Federal Match grants* fund day care services for children from eligible families. Resources obtained from local contributors are required in order to access matching federal funds. Resources to purchase services for children in foster care are provided through our *Family and Protective Services grant*. The *Child Care/Quality Improvement grant* supports professional development for child care providers and staff. The *Child Care Automated Attendance* grant supports systems that link children's attendance to provider payments.

CHILD CARE CLIENT SERVICES

Child Care Services		
BCY	2026	2025
Average number of children served daily	2,429	2,602
Families served in 2025	1,700	1,723
Children Served in a certified Texas Rising Star Center in October -	2,064	2,120

CHILD CARE PROVIDER SERVICES

Workforce Solutions Panhandle is currently assisting families and providing services for 2,625 children. PRPC has agreements with 97 Child Care Providers to provide services to WSP customers throughout the Panhandle of which 81% are Texas Rising Star certified. Approximately 90% of the children served through WSP are enrolled in a Texas Rising Star certified program.

Child Care Provider Services		
BCY	2026	2025
Total Providers	79	75
TRS certified	81%	73%
Providers who received initial TRS certification	8	8
Provider staff that received Scholarships	49	54
New students	47%	19%
Amount expended on Scholarships for teachers/directors	\$84,815	\$83,165

WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker, & Youth Program

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) helps people who need jobs. WIOA offers a range of programs and services. These programs help jobseekers get training, education and support. That way, they will do well in the job market. WIOA also helps connect employers with the trained workers they need.

TRAININGSERVICES

The *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act - Adult, Youth, and Dislocated Worker grants* fund case management, training, job search and placement, and supportive services for eligible clients. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program provides workforce development activities designed to enhance the employability, occupational attainment, retention and earnings of adults, dislocated workers and youth. WIOA improves the quality of the workforce, reduces welfare dependency, and enhances the productivity and competitiveness of the Texas economy.

Young Adult Training Services		
	BCY 2026	BCY 2025
Applications	99	---
Total Enrolled	60	---
Enrollment Rate	60.61%	---
Young Adults in Training	17	54
Young Adults in Workforce-Paid Internships	11	19
Young Adults Receiving GED Assistance	17	6
Total Served	105	81
Young Adult Training by Occupation		
	BCY 2026	BCY 2025
Healthcare Practitioners, Support and Technical	34	---
Protective Service	10	---
Computer and Mathematical	1	---
Production Welding	2	---
Installation, Maintenance and Repair	1	---
Total	48	54

ADULT & DISLOCATED WORKERS

Adult & Dislocated Worker Training Services		
BCY	2026	2025
Applications	363	237
Total Enrolled	212	198
Enrollment Rate	58.40%	83.54%
Total Adult/DLW enrolled	368	291

Adult & Dislocated Workers - Training by Occupation		
BCY	2026	2025
Healthcare Practitioners & Support	135	167
Transportation & Material Moving	59	46
Protective Service	11	7
Management	2	5
Computer & Mathematical	3	2
Production Welding & Machining	13	7
Architecture & Engineering	4	4
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	11	3
Construction and Extraction	1	1
Legal	1	---
Office and Administrative Support	6	---
Total	246	245

SNAP EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

The *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance/Employment and Training grant* provides case management and assists recipients of Food Stamps assistance to transition from public assistance to work through participation in work-related activities, including job search and job readiness, education, training activities, and support services. Clients are generally required to participate in one or more of those activities.

SNAP E&T Services		
BCY	2026	2025
Total served	255	200
Employed	102	101
Customers Received Support Services	146	146

CHOICES

The *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families/CHOICES grant* provides case management and assists applicants, recipients, non-recipient parents, and former recipients of TANF (cash assistance) to transition from welfare to work through participation in work-related activities, including job search and job readiness, basic skills training, education, vocational training, and support services. Parents are generally required to participate in one or more of those activities.

Choices Program		
	2026	2025
Total served	56	63
Employed	14	43
Support Services	28	39

NONCUSTODIAL PARENT CHOICES PROGRAM (NCP)

The *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families/Non-Custodial Parent Employment Services grant* provides case management and assists low-income unemployed or underemployed noncustodial parents who are behind on their child support payments and whose children are current or former recipients of public assistance. Clients are required to participate through a court order in Workforce work-related activities, including job search and job readiness, basic skills training, education, vocational training, and support services.

NCP Program		
BCY	2026	2025
Total NCP Customers Served	23	31
Establishment Cases	3	15
Enforcement Cases	20	16
Successfully Completed (6 months employed)	0	0
Obtained Employment	7	12
% Obtained Employment	30%	38%

REEMPLOYMENT SERVICES & ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT (RESEA) PROGRAM

The **RESEA program** is a federal grant program designed to provide intensive reemployment assistance to individuals who are receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits and are determined to be likely to exhaust their benefits before becoming reemployed.

Reemployment Services & Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) Program						
	RESEA Profile Pool Count		Initial RESEAs Completed		Completion Rate	
BCY	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025
WF Solutions Panhandle (Amarillo)	106	254	90	185	85%	73%
WF Solutions Panhandle (Borger)	26	61	23	50	88%	82%
Panhandle 1st Quarter Subtotal:	132	315	113	235	86%	75%

Status ☐ N/A ☐ NM ☐ MG ☐ EX

N/A 18	NM 1	MG 1	EX 1
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Monthly Performance Report | Official Release | April 2026 | Report Type: Board Contracted | Area: Board | LWDA: 1: Panhandle

Release Date: 07/10/2026

Measure	Numerator	Denominator	Performance	Current Target	EOY Target	% Current Target	From	To	Notes	% Current Target		
Adult: Credential Rate	96	110	87.27%	79.28%	79.28%	110.08%	01/24	09/24	18	N/A 110.08%		
Adult: Employed Q2	183	219	83.56%	79.37%	79.37%	105.28%	07/24	03/25	18	N/A 105.28%		
Adult: Employed Q4	123	136	90.44%	76.17%	76.17%	118.73%	01/24	09/24	18	N/A 118.73%		
Adult: Measurable Skill Gains	136	236	57.63%	70.70%	70.70%	81.51%	07/25	04/26	18	N/A 81.51%		
Adult: Median Earnings Q2	N/A	183	\$9,343.25	\$8,480	\$8,480	110.18%	07/24	03/25	18	N/A 110.18%		
C&T: Credential Rate	99	128	77.34%	75.00%	75.00%	103.12%	01/24	09/24	18	N/A 103.12%		
Child Care: Average # Children Served Per Day - Combined	370,140	152	2,435	2,833	2,833	85.95%	10/25	04/26	22	N/A 85.95%		
Child Care: Initial Job Search Success Rate	33	75	44.00%	56.91%	56.91%	77.32%	06/25	12/25	23	NM 77.32%		
Choices/TANF: Full Engagement Rate - All-Family	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.00%	50.00%	N/A	10/25	04/26	14	N/A N/A		
DW: Credential Rate	7	8	87.50%	85.00%	85.00%	102.94%	01/24	09/24	18	N/A 102.94%		
DW: Employed Q2	28	32	87.50%	82.35%	82.35%	106.25%	07/24	03/25	18	N/A 106.25%		
DW: Employed Q4	10	11	90.91%	81.99%	81.99%	110.88%	01/24	09/24	18	N/A 110.88%		
DW: Measurable Skill Gains	13	35	37.14%	76.00%	76.00%	48.87%	07/25	04/26	18	N/A 48.87%		
DW: Median Earnings Q2	N/A	28	\$9,652.47	\$9,510	\$9,510	101.50%	07/24	03/25	18	N/A 101.50%		
Reemployment: Claimant Reemployment within 10 Weeks	1,250	1,988	62.88%	61.09%	61.09%	102.93%	07/25	01/26	N/A	MG 102.93%		
Reemployment: Employers Receiving Texas Talent Assistance	1,662	1	1,662	1,439	2,076	115.50%	10/25	04/26	N/A	EX 115.50%		
Youth: Credential Rate	15	21	71.43%	79.37%	79.37%	90.00%	01/24	09/24	18	N/A 90.00%		
Youth: Employed/Enrolled Q2	46	55	83.64%	79.46%	79.46%	105.26%	07/24	03/25	18	N/A 105.26%		
Youth: Employed/Enrolled Q4	39	44	88.64%	77.23%	77.23%	114.77%	01/24	09/24	18	N/A 114.77%		
Youth: Measurable Skill Gains	25	58	43.10%	65.84%	65.84%	65.46%	07/25	04/26	18	N/A 65.46%		
Youth: Median Earnings Q2	N/A	45	\$5,705.72	\$5,200	\$5,200	109.73%	07/24	03/25	18	N/A 109.73%		
										0.00%	50.00%	100.00%

Monthly Performance Report | Official Release | April 2026 | Report Type: Board Contracted | Area: Board | LWDA: 1: Panhandle

14 Release of Choices visualization is pending resolution of issues in GSI's data interface with HHSC.

18 In some instances, services used to identify the Population Groups (Adult, DW, Youth) mistakenly include reportable and follow-up services and may inflate or deflate performance rate. Performance status currently suppressed.

22 Performance status currently suppressed to allow boards to adjust to new targets approved in March 2026 and to evaluate target forecasting for BCY 27.

YTD JUNE 2026 Report									
	Administration and Service Delivery Costs			Training and Support			Total		
	Total Budgeted	Total Expended	Percent Expended	Total Budgeted	Total Expended	Percent Expended	Total Budgeted	Total Expended	Percent Expended
GRANTS PROVIDING SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME ADULTS YOUTH AND DISLOCATED WORKERS									
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Adult 7/1/25-6/30/27	610,519	425,601	70%	750,000	461,872	62%	1,360,519	887,473	65%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Youth 7/1/25-6/30/27	533,730	289,458	54%	300,000	58,728	20%	833,730	348,186	42%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Youth - Work Experience 7/1/24-6/30/26	-	-	0%	130,000	80,200	62%	130,000	80,200	62%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/DLW 7/1/25-6/30/27	680,836	494,805	73%	180,000	168,263	93%	860,836	663,067	77%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Rapid Response 7/1/26-6/30/27	126,686	122,771	97%	-	-	0%	126,686	122,771	97%
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act/Externship for Teachers 2/1/26-1/31/27	66,494	23,340	0%	50,000	-	0%	116,494	23,340	20%
Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment 10/1/25-9/30/26	569,531	388,885	68%	-	-	0%	569,531	388,885	68%
Trade Adjustment Assistance 0126TRA001 10/1/25-9/30/26	753	-	-	4,247	-	0%	5,000	-	0%
Skills Development Fund with Healthcare Consortium 8/31/25-8/31/26	278,177	103,672	37%	-	-	0%	278,177	103,672	37%
GRANTS PROVIDING SERVICES TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS, NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS AND OFFENDERS									
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families CHOICES 10/1/25-10/31/26	827,361	584,486	71%	75,000	20,343	27%	902,361	606,829	67%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families CHOICES - Summer Youth 10/1/25-10/31/26	-	-	0%	100,000	51,569	52%	100,000	51,569	52%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families CHOICES - Educ Outreach 10/1/25-10/31/26	80,000	66,912	84%	-	-	0%	80,000	66,912	84%
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families NCP 9/1/25-9/30/26	140,810	96,654	69%	17,000	1,733	10%	157,810	98,387	62%
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance/Employment & Training 10/1/25-9/30/26	142,649	103,740	73%	30,000	22,014	73%	172,649	125,754	73%
GRANTS PROVIDING CHILD CARE SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS									
Child Care Formula 10/1/25-10/31/26	2,337,561	1,489,298	64%	19,485,478	13,842,361	71%	21,823,039	15,331,659	70%
Child Care Match 10/1/25-12/31/26	-	-	0%	1,289,615	114,751	9%	1,289,615	114,751	9%
Child Care Quality Improvement 10/1/25-10/31/26	183,000	77,745	42%	362,897	205,079	57%	545,897	282,824	52%
Child Care Quality Mentor 10/1/25-10/31/26	528,772	378,920	72%	-	-	0%	528,772	378,920	72%
Child Care Quality Formula Funds 10/1/25-10/31/26	-	-	0%	851,095	448,224	0%	851,095	448,224	53%
CCP - Family and Protective Services 9/1/25-9/30/26	37,500	26,311	70%	712,500	526,221	74%	750,000	552,532	74%
GRANTS PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR WORKFORCE CENTER OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES									
Wagner-Peyser Employment Service 10/1/25-12/31/26	172,472	92,032	53%	-	-	0%	172,472	92,032	53%
Veterans Employment Service 10/1/25-9/30/26	6,655	4,911	74%	-	-	0%	6,655	4,911	74%
GRANTS PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION SPECIAL INITIATIVES AND OTHER PROJECTS									
Workforce Commission Initiatives - TVLP 0126WCI001 10/1/25-9/30/26	3,057	2,399	78%	-	-	0%	3,057	2,399	78%
Workforce Commission Initiatives - Jobs Y'all Fair 0126WCI001 10/1/25-9/30/26	35,000	33,782	97%	-	-	0%	35,000	33,782	97%
Workforce Commission Initiatives - Foster Youth Conference 0126WCI001 10/1/25-9/30/26	1,212	-	0%	-	-	0%	1,212	-	0%
Workforce Commission Initiatives - Hiring Red, White and You! 0126WCI001 10/1/25-9/30/26	3,300	2,360	72%	-	-	0%	3,300	2,360	72%
Summer Earn & Learn 10/1/24-9/30/25	71,115	6,685	9%	155,220	8,433	100%	226,335	15,118	7%
Hireability Navigator 9/1/24-8/31/25	105,000	54,655	0%	-	-	0%	105,000	54,655	0%
VR Infrastructure Support Services Contract - 0125COL001 9/1/24-8/31/25	175,548	93,523	53%	-	-	0%	175,548	93,523	53%
High Demand Job Training - Dallas	150,000	-	0%	-	-	0%	150,000	-	0%
TOTAL	7,867,737	4,964,947	63%	24,493,051	16,009,790	65%	32,360,788	20,974,736	65%



6. WDB-(8)

Monitoring Report



MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 26, 2026

TO: Members of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and the Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body

FROM: Marin Rivas, Workforce Development Director

SUBJECT: Report on Monitoring Reviews

In its role as administrative and fiscal agent for the Panhandle Workforce Development Board (PWDB), the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) is required to oversee administration, and fiscal and program monitoring, for the delivery of Workforce Development Services and Child Care Services, under the Panhandle Workforce Development Area (PWDA) Service Delivery System Contract.

Fiscal and Program Monitoring activities are conducted by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), the external fiscal monitor, and the Board's internal program monitor, and include: reviewing records and supporting documentation, reporting the results of those reviews, and providing recommendations for actions to resolve instances of non-compliance with the One-Stop Service Delivery System Contract requirements.

The current Contractor, Huxford Group, LLC., assists individuals with opportunities to achieve and sustain self-sufficiency through federal and State funded programs. Monitoring activities required by the TWC Financial Manual for Grants and Contracts (FMGC), and conducted annually, include Risk Assessment and Fiscal Integrity Review.

Risk Assessment

A Risk Assessment evaluates and identifies what functional areas are high risk and the amount of risk each functional area indicates within the organization for their fiscal and/or program activities. These efforts are coordinated with Board's management. In an evaluation, a determination is made of the organization's processes and key controls in functional areas, the effectiveness of the strengths and weaknesses as indicated from prior monitoring visits, audit reports, knowledge and experience of key personnel and attainment of performance measures. The Risk Assessment rankings can alert the Board of potential concerns and are used to develop a monitoring plan. The process eliminates the review of areas with minimal risks. Thus, a Risk Assessment is critical to the identification and the measurement of risk(s) that may impede or impair the organization's ability to meet contracted goals, objectives and compliance standards by establishing what is high risk or a high-risk area.

For the period covering October 2026 through September 2027, the Program Risk Assessment, conducted by the Board's internal Program Monitor, and the Fiscal Risk Assessment, conducted by the external contracted Fiscal Monitor, **both concluded that no areas identified as "high risk."**

Fiscal Integrity Review

A Fiscal Integrity Review assesses workforce and child care contractors to ensure that they meet the requirements of the Board's Fiscal Integrity Review based on the following schedule:

- Contracts under \$100,000—the fiscal indicators must be verified prior to the award of the contract and at each renewal of the contract;
- Contracts between \$100,000 and \$500,000—the fiscal indicators must be verified prior to the award of the contract, at each renewal of the contract, and not less than biennially; and
- Contracts over \$500,000—the fiscal indicators must be verified prior to the award of the contract, at each renewal of the contract, and not less than once annually.

The Fiscal Integrity Review includes the following provisions for ensuring that workforce and child care service providers are meeting performance measures in compliance with requirements contained in:

- Federal and State statutes, regulations and directives of TWC; and
- Any other safeguards the Board has identified that are designed to ensure the proper and effective use of funds placed under the control of its workforce service providers.

The scope of the Fiscal Integrity Review includes an evaluation of the following areas for the contract renewal:

- Audit;
- Any adverse judgments or findings, such as administrative audit findings, Agency or Board monitor findings, or sanctions by the Board or court of law;
- Insurance;
- Prior Financial Monitoring Reviews; and
- Prior three-year financial history.

As part of the PWDB's Fiscal Monitoring contract with Christine Nguyen, a Fiscal Integrity Review was conducted to satisfy performance of the fiscal integrity evaluation, for the new Service Delivery Contract that is being considered, to comply with the 40 TAC §802.21. The results of the Review state **that the Contractor is in compliance with the fiscal integrity requirements to administer workforce and child care services.**

The following detailed report lists updated statuses for the Service Delivery Reviews of the current Contractor, Huxford Group, LLC, since the last report provided to the Board at the May 2026 meeting.

REPORT ON THE PWDA'S MONITORING REVIEWS

November 2025 – May 2026

Workforce Development and Child Care Services Program Monitoring Conducted by Internal Monitor – Kathy Cabezuela, Program Specialist			
Monitoring Review	Date of review	Period Covered	Status
Program Operating Systems - Fall 2025 Review	November 2025 – May 2026	April 2025 – September 2025	Final Report – All items resolved
Program Operating Systems Spring 2026	June 2026 – November 2026	October 2025 – March 2026	Ongoing
Program Risk Assessment	July 2026 - August 2026	October 2026 – September 2027	Completed

Administration of Equal Opportunity Compliance Department (EOCD) Conducted by Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)			
Monitoring Review	Date of review	Period Covered	Status
Equal Opportunity Compliance	January 2026	January 2025 – December 2025	Management Letter

Administration of Fiscal Control Monitoring Conducted by External Monitor – Christine H. Nguyen, CPA			
Monitoring Review	Date of review	Period Covered	Status
Fiscal Risk Assessment	July 2026	October 2026 – September 2027	Completed
Fiscal Integrity Review	July 2026	October 2025 – September 2026	Completed

Please note: text above that is in blue font designates updated information from the previous reports.

Texas Workforce Commission

A Member of Texas Workforce Solutions

Joe Esparza, Chairman
Commissioner Representing
Employers

Alberto Treviño III
Commissioner Representing
Labor

Brent Connett
Commissioner Representing
the Public

Steve Pier
Executive Director

Report 26.01.0201

August 14, 2026

VIA Email: mrivas@theprpc.org

Mr. Marin Rivas, Workforce Development Director
Workforce Solutions Panhandle
P.O. Box 9257
415 Southwest 8th Ave.
Amarillo, TX 79105

Dear Mr. Rivas:

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is required to monitor whether our grant subrecipients are complying with the equal opportunity laws (29 CFR § 38.31(b)). Equal Opportunity is a critical subject because (a) these rules assure all customers full access to every program, and also (b) these rules protect the civil rights of customers, employees and the public.

TWC's Equal Opportunity Compliance Department (EOCD) has completed our FY 2026 review for the Workforce Solutions Panhandle. This letter is our report. The EOCD has no findings and there are no issues which necessitate a corrective action plan.

Thank you again for your cooperation with this important task. We appreciate the assistance of Ms. Leslie Hardin, your local EO officer. Should you have any further questions concerning the EOCD review, please call the EO Compliance Department at 512-463-2400.

Sincerely,

Jon Pokorney

Jon Pokorney
State of Texas Equal Opportunity Officer

cc: Wanda Boatman, Board Chair, Workforce Solutions Panhandle
Frank Stluka, Acting Regional Administrator, ETA, USDOL
Joe Esparza, Chairman, Commissioner Representing Employers, TWC
Alberto Treviño, III, Commissioner Representing Labor, TWC
Brent Connett, Commissioner Representing the Public, TWC
Steve Pier, Executive Director, TWC
Mary York, Division Director, Workforce Development, TWC
Jason A. Stalinsky, Division Director, Fraud Deterrence and Compliance Monitoring, TWC

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6. WDB-(9)

Workforce Development Program Operation and Service Delivery Contract Renewal 2026-2027



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M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: August 26, 2026

TO: Panhandle Workforce Development Board (PWDB)

FROM: Marin Rivas, Workforce Development Director

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 6. WDB-(9) - Workforce Development Program Operation and Service Delivery Contract

BACKGROUND

The Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC)'s current contract with the Huxford Group, LLC for the delivery of workforce development and child care program services will end on September 30, 2026. The competitive procurement of a new four-year contract with annual renewals, given acceptable performance, was presented to the PWDB in May 2025 and the members authorized PRPC's Executive Director and the Workforce Development Director to negotiate and complete a one-year contract to begin on October 1st.

Official performance for the delivery of workforce development and child care program services for the PWDB is measured by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) in several ways. The majority of measures are established and posted in TWC's Monthly Performance Report, while some others are tracked in the WorkInTexas (WIT) case management. Some "Locally Established and/or Measured Performance" measures are monitored by staff utilizing reporting from Workforce Solutions Panhandle (WSP) procedures and tools. Targets are set and enumerated in Huxford's contract with PRPC. Not meeting the contracted targets will negatively impact PRPC's payment of profit to Huxford and could potentially result in requiring disallowed costs to be reimbursed to PRPC.

The proposed Contract between PRPC and Huxford Group, LLC contains numerous financial and service delivery assurances such as, but not limited to:

- PRPC shall not be liable for expenditures made in violation of the legal authorities cited in a grant, or any other law or regulation applicable to a specific service performed under a grant. The Sub-recipient (Huxford Group, LLC) understands and agrees that it will be liable to repay to PRPC any funds not expended in accordance with this Contract or determined to be expended in violation of the terms of this Contract.
- The Sub-recipient (Huxford Group, LLC) shall have financial management systems that provide for accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each grant, and records that adequately identify the source and application of funds for each grant, including information pertaining to awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets (including cash), expenditures, income, and interest.

- The Sub-recipient (Huxford Group, LLC) shall comply with the following bonding requirements and the Board Contracting Guidelines at 40 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §802.21 regarding any grants covered under this Contract: (1) The funds provided by any grant shall be included in coverage provided by a fidelity bond that indemnifies PRPC against loss arising from a fraudulent or dishonest act of the Sub-recipient's officers and employees holding positions of fiduciary trust; and (2) The Sub-recipient will obtain a position bond for those staff positions which have as a duty the distribution of program funds under this Contract, the issuance of financial documents, checks or other instruments of payments. Under no circumstances shall PRPC disburse to the Sub-recipient an amount of cash that exceeds the bond amount.
- The Sub-recipient (Huxford Group, LLC) agrees to maintain general liability insurance for personal injury, bodily injury and property damage to a third party. The minimum amount of coverage will be \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate. All policies shall show PRPC as an additional insured as its interest may appear. Copies of all policies shall be provided to PRPC on an annual basis. To the extent permitted by law, all policies of insurance required of Sub-recipient under this Contract shall contain a waiver of subrogation endorsement.
- Failure of the Sub-recipient (Huxford Group, LLC) to comply with any provision of any grant, whether stated in a federal or State statute or regulation, State Methods of Administration developed under 29 C.F.R. § 37.54, TWC rules, an assurance, a certification, an application, TWC policies or procedures referenced in a grant, or local policies may subject the Sub-recipient to sanctions and enforcement or remedial measures imposed by PRPC, TWC and/or the State of Texas, appropriate to the circumstances including: temporary withholding of payments; disallowance of costs; whole or partial suspension of any grant; withholding of further awards; or other remedies that may be legally available.
- The Sub-recipient (Huxford Group, LLC) will be liable for and will repay to PRPC any amounts which are not expended in compliance with Contract provisions, or disallowed as a result of a resolution agreement. The Sub-recipient will further be responsible for any audit exception or other payment deficiency in the program covered by the Contract and all subcontracts hereunder, which is found to exist after monitoring, review, or auditing by any party as authorized or required by TWC or PRPC. The Sub-recipient will be liable and will repay such funds even if the improper expenditure was made by a subcontractor.

Huxford Group has met or exceeded all of our expectations for program performance, funds utilization and contract compliance during the first ten months of this year. The organization's last audit resulted in an unmodified, "clean" opinion, and documented that the company possesses adequate unencumbered resources to cover potential disallowed costs, should they be incurred.

The PWDB's fiscal monitoring review resulted in no major fiscal findings regarding Huxford Group's operations. The Fiscal Integrity Report, conducted by an outside Certified Public Accountant, states that Huxford "complies with the fiscal integrity requirements to administer services." The same CPA conducted a Risk Assessment on 17 factors with the report indicating no items rating as "high risk".

PRPC's Workforce Development local Program Monitoring Reviews for the past year, performed by PWDB staff, resulted in no significant program findings regarding Huxford's operations. The PWDB staff also completed the Program Risk Assessment indicating no items rating as "high risk".

This renewal's contracted amount for operations is estimated to be approximately \$3,963,779. Huxford Group would also be responsible for obligating the use of about \$20,856,455 in additional funds for client training, supportive services and child care as a part of this agreement. Most of these funds would be retained at PRPC as the administrator for distribution. The contract would be for the period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2076, with the option for two additional annual renewals contingent upon acceptable performance. The funds to cover associated costs would be available from TWC and also from local child care matching funds.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that PWDB members authorize PRPC's Executive Director and the Workforce Development Director to proceed with the execution of a contract with Huxford Group LLC to deliver workforce development and child care program services for the period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027, with the option for annual renewals contingent upon acceptable performance.



6. WDB-(10)

PRPC Workforce Development Program Budget

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GOAL STATEMENT AND TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GOAL STATEMENT

The goal of the Workforce Development Program is to support the Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body and the Panhandle Workforce Development Board in developing and implementing an employment and training system that supports the economic prosperity of the region by assisting local employers with finding and developing the talent they need, and by investing in skills development that can increase workers' career opportunities and self-sufficiency.

TOTAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BUDGET

BUDGETED EXPENDITURES

Personnel	\$930,675
Contract Services	101,116
Travel	51,600
Direct Internal Services	497,451
Other Direct Program Exp.	521,505
Indirect Costs	165,634
Equipment	29,258
Pass Through	<u>26,580,632</u>

ANTICIPATED REVENUES BY SOURCE

GRANTS & GOVERNMENTAL CONTRACTS	
Federal Grants Through State	\$27,624,175
Texas State Grants	1,081,335
REGIONAL FUNDS	
Contract Service Fees	<u>172,361</u>

**TOTAL BUDGETED
EXPENDITURES** **\$ 28,877,871**

**TOTAL ANTICIPATED
REVENUE** **\$28,877,871**



CHILD CARE WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to ensure the provision of quality child care subsidies to eligible low-income families, to promote children's healthy development and safety, improve the quality of child care and provide support for parents who are working or in training or education.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Prepare the FY27 plan and budget.
2. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
3. Conduct child care provider claims processing for disbursement.
4. Develop local program policies and procedures.
5. Oversight of the delivery of child care services by the procured child care contractor.
6. Ensure compliance with client eligibility for services requirements under all federal, state and local regulations, policies and directives.
7. Secure agreements for the purpose of obtaining additional federal funds for additional child care services through a "local match" process where local entities agree to contribute funds or certify their allowable child care expenditures.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of FY27 plan and budget.
2. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
3. Submit approved child care reports through the State's data collection system biweekly.
4. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
5. Review and analyze TWC's monthly performance and expenditure reports and take appropriate action related to the "number of children served" per day.
6. Conduct at a minimum of 2 internal monitoring reviews of child care case files during the year each followed by technical assistance for resolution of related compliance issues and provision of staff training as needed.
7. Meet the Texas Workforce Commission's minimum local match requirement of \$644,932 for the Panhandle in order to receive the funds.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

4.33 Full-time equivalent

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$314,433
Fringe Benefits	166,618

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services	52,266
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TRAVEL

Out-of-Region Travel	23,880
Conference Registration	2,016

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	206,723
Copy Services	6,118
Human Resources Management	7,539
Information Technology	10,279
Office Space	32,166
Reception/Telecommunications	8,566
Vehicle Pool	405

OTHER DIRECT

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Office Supplies	1,137
Rent	127,822
Membership Fees/Dues	2,482
Postage & Freight	672
Advertisements	1,034
Other Expense	2,584

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect	75,380
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	6,927
-----------	-------

PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	<u>21,240,294</u>
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$22,289,341



CHILD CARE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

OBJECTIVE

To provide the administrative support necessary to implement child care quality improvement activities throughout the region. Quality improvement activities may include but are not limited to providing mentoring services to directors of child care facilities, providing consumer information to parents regarding the selection of quality child care, providing parenting education information, professional development for child care providers, directors, and employees, and providing educational materials for children served by child care providers.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Compile and submit all required reports to the funding agency.
2. Develop local program policies and procedures.
3. Ensure the subcontractor confers priority with regard to quality child care initiatives benefitting child care facilities that are working toward Texas Rising Star (TRS) Certification or are existing TRS providers working toward a higher star level.
4. Monitor and evaluate the performance of the contractor with regard to the provision of child care quality activities as required by funding agency.
5. Confirm that the subcontractor adheres to all Federal, state and local regulations, policies, and directives.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of quarterly progress reports and other reports as requested by funding agency.
2. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
3. Conducts quarterly reviews of child care quality activities facilitated by the subcontractor to ensure that priority of service is given to child care facilities that are working toward TRS certification or are existing TRS providers working toward a higher star level.
4. Review of financial and program reports submitted in writing to PRPC Workforce Development staff on a quarterly basis regarding the performance of child care quality initiatives.
5. Conduct at a minimum of 2 internal monitoring reviews of quality child care activities during the year, each followed by technical assistance for resolution of related compliance issues and provision of staff training as needed.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.000 Full-time equivalent (tasks conducted under this project supported by other Workforce Development Programs & Expenditure Budgets).

PERSONNEL

\$0

CONTRACT SERVICES

0

TRAVEL

In-Region Travel 775

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

0

OTHER DIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

0

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect 64

EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

922

PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through 1,899,438

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET\$1,901,199



REEMPLOYMENT SERVICES AND ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT (RESEA) WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to ensure claimants most likely to exhaust UI benefits with personalized reemployment services. RESEA provides these claimants with array of resources and services including enrollment in the WIOA – Dislocated Worker programs.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Prepare the FY27 plan and budget.
2. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
3. Develop local program policies and procedures.
4. Oversight of the delivery of RESEA services by the procured service delivery contractor.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of FY27 plan and budget.
2. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
3. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
4. Review and analyze TWC's monthly performance reports and take appropriate actions related to 2 reemployment and employer engagement measures.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.370 Full-time equivalent

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$26,645
Fringe Benefits	14,119

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services	7,409
-------------------	-------

TRAVEL

In-Region Travel	110
Out-of-Region Travel	3,385
Conference Registration	286

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	7,459
Copy Services	865
Human Resources Management	627
Information Technology	863
Office Space	3,023
Reception/Telecommunications	732
Vehicle Pool	41

OTHER DIRECT

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Office Supplies	161
Rent	18,108
Membership Fees/Dues	352
Postage & Freight	95
Advertisements	147
Other Expense	366

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES,

Indirect	6,602
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	2,919
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PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	<u>275,704</u>
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$370,017



SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to ensure that eligible supplemental nutrition assistance recipients receive services and support to help them enter and retain employment, and become self-sufficient.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Prepare the FY27 plan and budget.
2. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
3. Ensure that Contractor conducts outreach to 100% of the Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD) who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.
4. Develop local program policies and procedures.
5. Oversight of the delivery of services by the procured Service Delivery Contractor.
6. Monitor and evaluate the performance of the contractor with regard to the provision of SNAP services as required by the funding agency.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of FY26 plan and budget.
2. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
3. Review monthly outreach reports, resolution of related compliance issues through Technical Assistance and provision of staff training as needed.
4. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
5. Ensure the TWC's required monthly performance of "outreach within 10 days" is met.
6. Conduct at a minimum of 2 internal monitoring reviews of all SNAP services during the year, followed by technical assistance for resolution of related compliance issues a provision of staff training as needed.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.210 Full-time equivalent

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$14,790
Fringe Benefits	7,837

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services	1,896
-------------------	-------

TRAVEL

In-Region Travel	28
Out-of-Region Travel	866
Conference Registration	73

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	8,697
Copy Services	221
Human Resources Management	356
Information Technology	490
Office Space	1,259
Reception/Telecommunications	415
Vehicle Pool	11

OTHER DIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Office Supplies	41
Rent	6,210
Membership Fees/Dues	90
Postage & Freight	24
Advertisements	38
Other Expense	94

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect	3,396
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	1,609
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PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	124,207
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$172,649



TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES - CHOICES WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to ensure that eligible temporary assistance to needy families (TANF) applicants and recipients receive services and support to help them improve their basic and occupational skills, enter and retain employment and become self-sufficient.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Prepare the FY27 plan and budget.
2. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
3. Develop program policies and procedures.
4. Oversight of the delivery of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)/CHOICES program services by the procured service delivery contractor.
5. Monitor and evaluate the performance of the contractor with regard to the provision of TANF/CHOICES services as required by the funding agency.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of FY27 plan and budget.
2. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
3. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
4. Ensure the Workforce Development Board's required performance measures of program participants are met.
5. Conduct at a minimum of 2 monitoring reviews of TANF/CHOICES services during the year, each followed by technical assistance for resolution of related compliance issues and provision of staff training as needed.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.710 Full-time equivalent

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$49,525
Fringe Benefits	26,243

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services	15,558
-------------------	--------

TRAVEL

In-Region Travel	231
Out-of-Region Travel	7,109
Conference Registration	600

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	35,244
Copy Services	1,815
Human Resources Management	1,203
Information Technology	1,656
Office Space	6,201
Reception/Telecommunications	1,404
Vehicle Pool	86

OTHER DIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Office Supplies	339
Rent	53,363
Membership Fees/Dues	739
Postage & Freight	200
Advertisements	308
Other Expense	769

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect	15,947
----------	--------

EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	8,747
-----------	-------

PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	784,607
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$1,011,895



TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES – CHOICES NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT EMPLOYMENT WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to ensure that non-custodial parents, who have an open Office of the Attorney General (OAG) case; and have been court-ordered to enroll in the NCP workforce program, receive services and support to help them improve their basic and occupational skills, enter and retain employment, become self-sufficient, and fulfill their child support responsibilities.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Prepare the FY27 plan and budget.
2. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
3. Participate in monthly Non-Custodial Parent (NCP) meeting with the OAG and Service Delivery Contractor staff to discuss issues related to participants' progress in the program.
4. Compile and submit all required reports to funding sources.
5. Develop local program policies and procedures.
6. Monitor and evaluate the performance of the contractor with regard to the provision of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families – Choices Non-Custodial Parent program services as required by funding agency.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of FY27 plan and budget.
2. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
3. Attend 12 monthly Non-Custodial Parent (NCP) meetings with the OAG and Service Delivery Contractor staff.
4. Submission of 12 monthly Progress reports and supporting documents.
5. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
6. Conduct at a minimum of 2 monitoring reviews of TANF/CHOICES-NCP services during the year, followed by technical assistance for resolution of related compliance issues and provision of staff training as needed

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.205 Full-time equivalent

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$14,437
Fringe Benefits	7,650

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services	2,029
-------------------	-------

TRAVEL

In-Region Travel	30
Out-of-Region Travel	927
Conference Registration	78

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	4,065
Copy Services	237
Human Resources Management	347
Information Technology	478
Office Space	1,251
Reception/Telecommunications	406
Vehicle Pool	11

OTHER DIRECT

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Office Supplies	44
Rent	5,850
Membership Fees/Dues	96
Postage & Freight	26
Advertisements	40
Other Expense	100

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect	2,957
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	3,094
-----------	-------

PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	113,655
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$157,810



VETERANS EMPLOYMENT SERVICES WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

OBJECTIVE

To provide for the co-location of Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) employees serving veterans at the Amarillo workforce center.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Promote and support the integration of workforce services provided to veterans by state and contractor staffs.
2. Compile and submit all required reports to funding source.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Co-location of 1 TVC employee at the Amarillo workforce center.
2. Submission of Budget Worksheet and Final Expenditure Report as requested by Texas Veterans Commission (TVC).

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.000 Full-time equivalent.

PERSONNEL

\$ 0

CONTRACT SERVICES

0

TRAVEL

0

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

0

OTHER DIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Rent 7,582

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect 629

EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment 0

PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through 0

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$8211



WAGNER-PEYSER EMPLOYMENT SERVICES WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

OBJECTIVE

To provide for the co-location of Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) employees providing labor-exchange services to employers and job seekers at the area's workforce centers and to fund additional TWC initiatives.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Arrange for office space and related services for TWC employees at the area's workforce centers.
2. Promote and support the coordination of TWC employees and Contractor staff to ensure services are provided to employers and job seekers to meet performance requirements.
3. Participate in community coordination efforts to serve employers and job seekers.
4. Participate in community coordination efforts to promote the hiring of veterans.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Negotiation and execution of a contract and oversight of its implementation to co-locate staff at the area's workforce centers.
2. Ensure the Texas Workforce Commission's "Employer's Receiving Workforce Assistance" performance measures are met.
3. Co-sponsor a minimum of 2 regional job fairs and 36 hiring events.
4. Host an annual local Hiring Red, White and You! veteran job fair in the Panhandle.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.0210 Full-time equivalent

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$2,857
Fringe Benefits	1,514

CONTRACT SERVICES

0

TRAVEL

0

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	6,699
Human Resources Management	42
Information Technology	58
Office Space	126
Reception/Telecommunications	49

OTHER DIRECT

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Rent	39,533
------	--------

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect	4,200
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	399
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PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	<u>44,521</u>
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$100,000



WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT - ADULT WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to ensure that eligible adults, who meet the priority standards, receive individualized career and training services, including supportive services, in order to prepare them for jobs in high demand occupations throughout the region. The delivery of these services enhances the skills, education, and literacy levels of individual adults which subsequently leads to better employment opportunities, job retention and higher earning potential.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Prepare the FY27 plan and budget.
2. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
3. Develop local program policies and procedures.
4. Oversight of the delivery of adult services by the procured service delivery contractor.
5. Confirm that the subcontractor adheres to all Federal, state and local regulations, policies, and directives.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of FY27 plan and budget.
2. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
3. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
4. Review and analyze TWC's Monthly performance reports and take appropriate actions related to the 5 adult and 3 all participant WIOA outcome measures.
5. Conduct at a minimum of 2 monitoring reviews of WIOA-Adult activities during the year followed by technical assistance for resolution of related compliance issues and provision of staff training as needed.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.930 Full-time equivalent

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$59,775
Fringe Benefits	31,675

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services	8,261
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TRAVEL

In-Region Travel	123
Out-of-Region Travel	3,774
Conference Registration	319

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	31,682
Copy Services	964
Human Resources Management	1,157
Information Technology	1,592
Office Space	4,823
Reception/Telecommunications	1,351
Vehicle Pool	46

OTHER DIRECT

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Office Supplies	180
Rent	38,982
Membership Fees/Dues	392
Postage & Freight	106
Advertisements	163
Other Expense	408

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect	14,679
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	1,245
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PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	523,129
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$724,828



WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT – DISLOCATED WORKER WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to ensure that eligible dislocated workers, who have become unemployed through “no-fault of their own,” receive services and support to help them improve their basic and occupational skills, enter and retain employment and become self-sufficient.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Prepare the FY27 plan and budget.
2. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
3. Develop local program policies and procedures.
4. Oversight of the delivery of dislocated worker services by the procured service delivery contractor.
5. Provide oversight in planning and delivery of WIOA “Rapid Response” services which include early intervention activities designed to enable dislocated workers to transition to new employment following either a plant closure, mass layoff, or a natural or other disaster.
6. Confirm that the subcontractor adheres to all Federal, state and local regulations, policies, and directives.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of FY27 plan and budget.
2. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
3. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
4. Review and analyze TWC's monthly performance reports and take appropriate action related to the 5 dislocated worker and 3 all participant WIOA outcome measures.
5. Review staff reports of Rapid Response services and activities provided to Rapid Response participants.
6. Conduct at a minimum of 2 monitoring reviews of WIOA-DLW activities during the year, followed by technical assistance for resolution of related compliance issues and provision of staff training as needed.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.570 Full-time equivalent

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$62,080
Fringe Benefits	32,897

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services	6,992
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TRAVEL

In-Region Travel	104
Out-of-Region Travel	3,195
Conference Registration	270

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	38,161
Copy Services	815
Human Resources Management	1,196
Information Technology	1,646
Office Space	4,668
Reception/Telecommunications	1,396
Vehicle Pool	39

OTHER DIRECT

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Office Supplies	152
Rent	41,740
Membership Fees/Dues	332
Postage & Freight	90
Advertisements	138
Other Expense	346

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Indirect	15,550
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	1,646
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PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	659,592
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET\$873,043



WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT - YOUTH WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to ensure that eligible youth and young adults, ages 14-24, who face barriers to employment, beginning with career exploration and guidance, continued support for educational attainment, opportunities for skills training in in-demand industries and occupations.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Prepare the FY27 plan and budget.
2. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
3. Develop local program policies and procedures.
4. Oversight of the delivery of youth services by the procured service delivery contractor.
5. Confirm that the subcontractor adheres to all federal, state and local regulations, policies, and directives.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of FY27 plan and budget.
2. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
3. Issuance of local program policies and procedures.
4. Review and analyze TWC's monthly performance reports and take appropriate actions related to 5 youth and 3 all participant WIOA outcome measures.
5. Conduct at a minimum of 2 monitoring reviews of WIOA-Youth activities during the year, followed by technical assistance for resolution of related compliance issues and provision of staff training as needed.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.450 Full-time equivalent

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$49,640
Fringe Benefits	26,305

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services	6,704
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TRAVEL

In-Region Travel	99
Out-of-Region Travel	3,063
Conference Registration	259

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	31,234
Copy Services	782
Human Resources Management	951
Information Technology	1,309
Office Space	3,958
Reception/Telecommunications	1,110
Vehicle Pool	37

OTHER DIRECT

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Office Supplies	146
Rent	16,244
Membership Fees/Dues	318
Postage & Freight	87
Advertisements	133
Other Expense	332

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES,

Indirect	11,237
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	621
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PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	559,990
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$714,557



TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION – SPECIAL INITIATIVES (TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE, WORKFORCE COMMISSION INITIATIVES) WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to implement Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Special Initiatives throughout the region. These include workforce development activities that support the delivery of services to workers and employers.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Compile and submit all required reports to the funding agency.
2. Ensure oversight of grant expenditures and activities facilitated by the Service Delivery Contractor and the Board.
3. Oversight of the delivery of Special Initiatives by the procured service delivery contractor and the Board.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Submission of a minimum of 4 reports for WCI and any other reports as requested by funding agency.
2. Conduct quarterly reviews of the process reports, grant expenditures, and activities facilitated by the Service Delivery Contractor and the Board.
3. Review of financial and program reports submitted verbally or in writing to PRPC Workforce Development staff on a quarterly basis regarding the performance of the initiatives.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.000 Full-time equivalent (tasks conducted under this project supported by other Workforce Development Programs and Expenditure Budgets).

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

\$ 0

CONTRACT SERVICES

0

TRAVEL

0

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services 4,182

OTHER DIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Rent 3,020

INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES.

Indirect 598

EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

0

PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through 51,037

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$58,837



VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION CONTRACTS (SUMMER EARN AND LEARN, STUDENT HIREABILITY NAVIGATOR PROGRAM AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION CO-LOCATION) WORK PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET

2027 WORK PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

To provide administrative support necessary to implement Texas Workforce Commission Vocational Rehabilitation initiatives throughout the region. These include workforce development activities that support the delivery of services to workers with disabilities and employers.

PRIMARY WORK TASKS

1. Coordinate activities and provide administrative support to the Panhandle Workforce Development Board and Panhandle Workforce Development Consortium's Governing Body.
2. Coordinate the integration between Texas Workforce Com. Vocational Rehabilitation and Panhandle Workforce Solutions.
3. Compile and submit all required reports and invoices to funding sources.

PRINCIPLE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Conduct a minimum of 4 Workforce Board and Governing Body meetings.
2. Submit invoices required for Vocational Rehabilitation department co-location to the Vocational Rehabilitation department of the Texas Workforce Commission.
3. Submit invoices and reports required for Summer Earn and Learn (SEAL), and Student Hireability Navigator to the Vocational Rehabilitation department of the Texas Workforce Commission.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

0.20 Full-time equivalent

2027 EXPENDITURE BUDGET

PERSONNEL

Salaries	\$14,141
Fringe Benefits	7,493

CONTRACT SERVICES

0

TRAVEL

0

DIRECT INTERNAL SERVICES

Accounting Services	3,640
Human Resources Management	339
Information Technology	466
Office Space	872
Reception/Telecommunications	396
Vehicle Pool	406

OTHER DIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES

Rent	147,748
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INDIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES,

Indirect	14,395
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EQUIPMENT EXPENSES

Equipment	1,130
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PASS THROUGH EXPENSES

Pass Through	304,458
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TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$495,484





6. WDB-(12)

Sunset Advisory Commission Report

House and Senate Actions

The 89th Texas Legislature is adjourned Sine Die. Texas House and Senate Committees are currently conducting hearings on their interim study charges.

Committee Hearings

Sunset Advisory Commission

The Sunset Advisory Commission held a public hearing to hear invited and public testimony and review the findings in the Texas Workforce Commission Sunset Commission Staff Report.

The hearing opened with Sunset Advisory Commission Executive Director Eric Beverly presenting a brief overview of the sunset process, including the four-phase process, and the proposed sunset review schedule. The Advisory Commission adopted the review schedule.

Katherine Durain and Robin Blackman with the Sunset Advisory Commission then presented the [Sunset Staff Report on TWC](#), outlining their main nine findings and recommendations.

Sen. Kolkhorst asked the Sunset staff about the LWDB contracting processes. She specifically mentioned concern about IT and communication between LWDBs and TWIC. Ms. Durain shared that while TWC and the boards communicate and coordinate often, it is not always effective. Sunset staff recommended TWC establish a LWDB Advisory Committee that can assist TWC with those communication issues. She also inquired about data and IT procurement as it relates to TWC and state agencies. Sunset agreed with her comments claiming that while IT is an issue across the state, they identified specific processes within TWC that should be modified to support future success with data collection. Commission Members Rep. Shaheen and Sen. Blanco asked follow-up questions on the use of AI and childcare operations. Sen. Kolkhorst asked if TWC fraud numbers are accurate since they are so much lower than the national average. Sunset staff stated that the fraud rate is believable, but the data is old. Concerned over the obstructions in recouping fraudulent payments, she and Sen. Sparks conversed over tools and methods in combating UI fraud. Sen. Kolkhorst also expressed concern about data on enrollment rates with the SNAP E&T program and program requirements. Sunset staff explained that boards can partner with 3rd parties and apply for reimbursement.

The Commission then heard testimony from TWC Chairman Joe Esparza and Executive Director Steve Pier. They delivered an overview of the Agency, its commitment to the sunset review process and stated that the agency agrees with all of the findings and recommendations contained in the Sunset staff report on TWC.

Texas Workforce Investment Council (TWIC) Chairman Rick Rhodes and Executive Director Kaki Lyons testified on the collaborative role of the TWIC and agreed with sunset findings except for recommendations on the transfer of some local oversight authority to TWC citing TWIC's neutrality.

After witness testimony, Sunset Advisory Commission Members asked questions on topics related to the findings in the Sunset Commission Staff Report.

The Questions of Chairman Esparza and Mr. Pier focused on the following:

- TWC relationships with Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs)
- TWC rarely enforces sanctions when LWDBs fail to meet measures.
- IT and data management are not adequate to measure LWDB performance.
- Insufficient IT procurement and data transfer systems lead to a loss of staff hours, funds and effectiveness
- No formal communication between LWDBs and TWC
- LWDB fiscal agents and contractor separation
- SNAP E&T Program
- Compliance monitoring
- SNAP E&T activities
- Federal requirements for participants
- Endless loop between TWC and HHSC for customers who lose their SNAP benefits
- IT and Data Collection
- Issues with the TWC3 launch leading to payment issues and disruptions in care
- Concerns that TWC3 launch resulted in a loss of funds
- The report's recurring examples on TWC's lack of data
- Operational changes including consolidating TWC's IT procurement with regular procurement into one entity
- Unemployment Insurance
- Funds allocated for the modernization of the Unemployment Insurance Tax and Appeals system and issues related to that procurement and roll out
- Fraud prevention; identity theft vs. benefits fraud
- Fraud landscape during and after Covid
- Career Schools and Colleges Licensing transition to TDLR
- Various systems utilized by TWC may inhibit a successful transfer
- Issues with the implementation of the EDVera system for the Career Schools and College Program
- Childcare Fraud and Enforcement

- Daily attendance
- Childcare subsidy program prevents fraud through participant criteria and standards
- Lack of state-wide processes and training for childcare investigations and related funding
- Coordination with HHSC
- Market Rate Survey and Texas Rising Star programs
- UI Customer Service and Call Centers
- Concerns over dropped calls and wait times
- Use of AI to handle common UI status questions
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Co-location shortfalls and needed flexibility
- Improvements to the VR programs including VR Counselor training, reorganization of regional offices and aligning management units with LWDBs
- Program criteria and payments
- Paving the Pathways to Success in the Gulf Coast
- TWIC
- Lack of enforcement to ensure LWDBs are meeting standards
- Independence and neutrality of TWIC

After the Sunset Advisory Commission completed their questions, the hearing opened to public testimony which varied between public advocacy groups, non-profits and unions and echoed the findings of the Sunset Staff Report. Testimony covered real world challenges of TWC's data systems which prevents groups from accurately measuring TWC's success in childcare, changes in employment needs and community college reimbursements. For the SNAP E&T program, advocates recommended adding third party partnerships and drawing down federal matching funds to increase program success. Childcare advocates agreed in their testimony that increased coordination among state agencies is necessary along with better methodology to determine reimbursement rates. While others went further suggesting the state should create a separate childcare agency. Testimony on VR services focused on supports for VRCs, adherence to individualized plans and additional support for pre-employment transition services.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Chair Kolkhorst stated that the Commission will hold their vote on the recommendations for TWC at their hearing on November 18, 2026.

Texas Workforce Commission Sunset Review – Key Recommendations Affecting Local Workforce Development Boards

Background

The Sunset Advisory Commission Staff has completed its review of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The report recommends **continuing TWC for another 12 years**, concluding that Texas' integrated workforce system remains the appropriate model for delivering workforce development, unemployment insurance, vocational rehabilitation, and child care services. While recommending continuation, Sunset staff identified several areas requiring significant improvement that will directly impact Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs).

Key Recommendations Affecting Local Workforce Boards

Strengthened Oversight and Accountability

- Increase TWC's oversight authority over LWDBs.
- Transfer certain board oversight responsibilities from the Texas Workforce Investment Council to TWC.
- Establish a new Local Workforce Development Board Advisory Committee.
- Strengthen corrective action processes for boards with repeat or long-term performance deficiencies.
- Improve public reporting of LWDB performance and accountability.

Improved Workforce System Coordination

- Increase collaboration between TWC, workforce boards, and service providers.
- Standardize statewide guidance for SNAP Employment & Training Third-Party Partnerships (TPPs).
- Modernize SNAP E&T systems in partnership with the Health and Human Services Commission.
- Evaluate how local workforce staff can better assist Unemployment Insurance customers.

Vocational Rehabilitation Integration

- Develop a formal statewide strategy to fully integrate Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services with Workforce Solutions offices.
- Eliminate the current regional VR administrative structure and redirect resources to frontline customer services.
- Improve training for Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors.

Technology Modernization

- Develop a two-year statewide IT modernization strategy.
- Improve project planning and procurement for major technology initiatives.
- Require formal readiness (“go/no-go”) reviews before implementing new systems.
- Strengthen agencywide data governance to improve data quality and reporting.
- The report specifically identifies ongoing issues associated with TWC’s Child Care case management system, including payment delays, data inaccuracies, and operational challenges experienced by local workforce boards and child care providers.

Child Care Program Administration

- Standardize child care fraud investigation procedures statewide with increased TWC oversight.
- Improve coordination and training between TWC and the Department of Family and Protective Services.
- Modernize the Child Care Market Rate Survey used to establish provider reimbursement rates.

Other Significant Recommendations

- Transfer regulation of Career Schools and Colleges from TWC to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.
- Strengthen tools to prevent and recover Unemployment Insurance fraud.
- Improve agency rule review, reporting requirements, and governance related to artificial intelligence.
- Continue the Texas Workforce Investment Council while eliminating several outdated statutory responsibilities.

What This Means for the Panhandle Workforce Development Board

The Sunset recommendations reflect a statewide emphasis on **greater accountability, stronger oversight, improved operational consistency, and modernization of workforce systems**. For the Panhandle Workforce Development Board, the report reinforces many initiatives already underway, including enhanced contract monitoring, stronger performance management, Child Care Services oversight, improved customer service, and continued collaboration with TWC and regional partners.

It is important to note that these are **Sunset Staff recommendations**, not final legislative action. The recommendations will now be considered by the Sunset Commission and the Texas Legislature during the Sunset process, where they may be modified before becoming law.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF SUNSET STAFF REPORT

Texas Workforce
Commission
Texas Workforce
Investment Council
Purchasing from People
with Disabilities Program

Project Manager: Katie Durain

Full Report Here
sunset.texas.gov

The 2015 Sunset review of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) found TWC to be a proactive agency with no critical problems delivering its core functions. Since that time, a surge of new challenges has impeded the agency's ability to strategically modernize. Changes in federal workforce and child care funding laws, as well as the Legislature's transfer of the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program from the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services to TWC through the Sunset process, required extensive updates to agency rules and operations that consumed TWC in the years immediately following its last review. Just as the agency was stabilizing, the COVID-19 pandemic overwhelmed TWC with a massive spike in both unemployment claims and unemployment fraud. Since the pandemic, TWC has made incremental improvements to some operations through various initiatives. However, transformative changes have stalled, and the agency has often fallen back on a reactionary, business-as-usual mindset. This Sunset review of TWC presents an opportunity to course correct where necessary and make improvements to TWC's administration of critical state functions.

Transformative changes at TWC have stalled, and this Sunset review presents an opportunity to course correct.

Unlike most states, Texas consolidates the administration of unemployment insurance (UI), child care subsidy and quality initiatives, and federal workforce programs including VR into one agency. Despite Texas' highly consolidated model, the workforce system in Texas still relies on collaboration and coordination between many entities, including local workforce development boards (LWDB) that oversee the delivery of workforce services to the public at local Workforce Solutions (WFS) offices. However, siloes within the agency and between TWC and other workforce system partners hinder TWC's ability to ensure consistent and efficient program delivery across the state. In some cases, programmatic siloes continue at the local level, hindering WFS offices' ability to be one-stop delivery centers for workforce services.

This Sunset review found a need for TWC to improve its oversight of and coordination with LWDBs to better facilitate the effective delivery of workforce programs to Texans. Furthermore, although TWC has co-located most VR offices with WFS locations over the last decade, the agency has not sufficiently integrated VR services with workforce programs, missing a critical opportunity to improve customer outcomes and experiences.

Additionally, the Sunset review found that ongoing problems with modernizing the agency's technology and data infrastructure have hindered system performance, limiting TWC's ability to ensure accountability and make data-driven decisions. For example, numerous stakeholders expressed frustration to Sunset staff about the rollout of TWC's child care case management system, which launched with payment delays to providers and data errors and has ongoing functionality issues. While Sunset staff received significant input about other problems related to child care in Texas, many of these concerns involve wider policy decisions outside the scope of this review or may be addressed by new interagency initiatives established by the Legislature. However, the Sunset review identified a need for improved communication and training between TWC and the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) regarding subsidized day care and improvements to the way TWC collects data to set child care provider subsidy rates. Finally, the Sunset review found that TWC needs to improve oversight of child care fraud investigations and requires additional statutory authority to better deter and penalize UI fraud.

The Texas Workforce Investment Council, also under Sunset review, is responsible for conducting strategic planning for the integration of systemwide workforce development services and evaluating how well the system is meeting the needs of Texas employers and job seekers. The Sunset review found that two of the council's functions are no longer necessary.

Despite finding areas for improvement and opportunities for efficiency gains at both TWC and the council, Sunset staff determined that Texas continues to benefit from each entity's activities and found the overall structure of the workforce system remains appropriate for Texas. Accordingly, Sunset staff recommends continuing both TWC and the council for 12 years.

Though the overall structure of the workforce system remains appropriate, one TWC program, the Career Schools and Colleges (CSC) regulatory program, does not align with its overall mission and function, and TWC's administration of the program is insufficient to protect the public. This functional misalignment led Sunset staff to conclude that the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), the state's primary occupational licensing and regulatory agency, could better license and regulate career schools and colleges in Texas than TWC.

The following material highlights Sunset staff's key recommendations for the Texas Workforce Commission and Texas Workforce Investment Council.

Sunset Staff Issues and Recommendations

ISSUE 1

Enhancing TWC's Coordination With and Oversight of LWDBs Would Better Ensure Effective Workforce Program Delivery for Texans.

TWC manages and oversees the delivery of workforce programs through LWDBs, which provide workforce training and services in their respective areas. Additionally, LWDBs procure and monitor direct-service

providers for federal workforce programs. However, TWC lacks comprehensive oversight tools, in part because it shares statutory authority with the Texas Workforce Investment Council. Despite this shared authority, TWC fails to consistently leverage its existing tools and authority to address ongoing poor performance by some LWDBs. Furthermore, TWC does not make sufficient LWDB performance information public, as required by statute.

While communication happens at many levels in the workforce program delivery system, the siloed nature of TWC hinders accurate and timely delivery of information to key stakeholders. Better communication and coordination between TWC, LWDBs, and direct-service providers would help improve the customer experience. In particular, structural inefficiencies and insufficient coordination of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) program between the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), TWC, and LWDBs limit the state's ability to maximize federal funds through third-party partnerships (TPP) and restricts participants' access to services. Similarly, a lack of available staff at the local level to provide UI customer service contributes to a confusing and fragmented experience for applicants. Ultimately, improving TWC's coordination with and oversight of LWDBs would improve the delivery of workforce services statewide.

Key Recommendations

- Transfer certain council authority and responsibility for LWDB oversight to TWC.
- Abolish TWC's expired advisory committee and require TWC to establish a new LWDB Advisory Committee in rule.
- Direct TWC to reevaluate adverse action rules and policies to address repeat or long-term poor performance by LWDBs.
- Require TWC to standardize guidance and procedures for TPPs and direct TWC, in consultation with HHSC, to update SNAP E&T systems and procedures.
- Direct TWC to analyze the most effective use of staff to serve UI customers.

ISSUE 2

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation Could More Effectively Regulate Career Schools and Colleges Than TWC.

Texas has a continuing need to regulate career schools and colleges to ensure students are properly trained, can perform their duties safely, and meet state licensing requirements. However, TWC's current administration of the career schools and colleges (CSC) regulatory program is insufficient and ill-equipped to protect students and the public. CSC struggles to accomplish even the most basic regulatory tasks such as renewing certifications, handling complaints, and ensuring compliance. Some problems stem from statutory requirements and limitations, but many issues arise from a program that poorly aligns with TWC's primary functions. Regulation of career schools and colleges better aligns with the mission and functions of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), which already provides regulatory or license oversight for many career and technical education programs similar to those CSC regulates. Transferring the CSC program to TDLR aligns occupational training with occupational regulation.

Key Recommendations

- Transfer the regulation of career schools and colleges from TWC to TDLR.
- Authorize the regulating agency to provide biennial renewal for career school or college certification.
- Require the regulating agency to establish a risk-based approach to inspections.

ISSUE 3

TWC's Vocational Rehabilitation Program Struggles With Integration, Administration, and Training, Hindering Its Ability to Efficiently, Consistently, and Fairly Serve Customers.

TWC's VR program, which provides direct services to Texans with disabilities to maximize their employment opportunities, still operates in a silo a decade after its transfer. Although the agency has physically co-located many VR staff into WFS offices, the VR program lacks an integrated service delivery model for effective coordination between VR and workforce programs to better provide services to all customers. VR's inefficient administrative structure also exacerbates pressures at the local level caused by high turnover and inadequate training for new VR counselors (VRC). Ultimately, integrating VR and workforce programs and improving administration of the VR program would enable TWC to redistribute available resources to better enhance service delivery for customers.

Key Recommendations

- Direct TWC to define TWC-VR integration and its objectives in rule.
- Direct the VR program to abolish its regional structure and redistribute regional personnel and resources.
- Direct the VR program to update training for new VRCs to improve curriculum and better prepare staff.

ISSUE 4

TWC's Poorly Executed IT Modernization Efforts Compromise the Effective Delivery of Workforce and Child Care Services to Texans.

TWC relies on a large and complex information technology (IT) enterprise to deliver workforce and child care services, track performance, and ensure programs operate effectively across the state. However, TWC's recent IT modernization efforts have resulted in systems that are delayed, scaled back, or deployed before they are fully functional. These systems often require ongoing fixes, create unreliable data, and increase administrative burden for the agency and stakeholders. Multiple systemic issues perpetuate these challenges, including TWC's lack of a formal agencywide IT strategic plan, inconsistent front-end project planning, uncoordinated and uninformed procurement practices, rushed system implementation, and an ineffective data governance structure. Improving these processes would equip TWC with IT systems that function more effectively for its staff, stakeholders, and Texans.

Key Recommendations

- Direct TWC to develop a two-year strategic IT modernization plan that aligns with the state budget timeline and requires formal commission approval.
- Direct TWC to formally revise its IT procurement framework to include necessary staff.
- Direct TWC to implement mandatory, program-led go/no-go criteria for all major system launches.
- Direct TWC to prioritize the completion of a unified data model and ensure agencywide alignment with enterprise data governance policies.

ISSUE 5**Better Processes and Tools Would Improve TWC's Ability to Deter and Penalize Fraud.**

TWC's oversight of child care fraud investigations needs improvement. TWC relies on LWDBs to investigate child care fraud and determine whether allegations are substantiated but has limited oversight to ensure boards conduct thorough, consistent, and accurate investigations. In practice, LWDBs' performance in fraud investigations is inconsistent, leaving Texas with 28 different standards for investigating child care fraud. TWC could better ensure child care fraud investigations are consistent and effective by using agency staff to directly supervise locally conducted investigations.

TWC is good at detecting UI fraud and preventing payment. However, the agency's minimal statutory penalties do not sufficiently deter UI fraud, and TWC's limited ability to recover fraudulent overpayments and collect penalties results in a significant cost to Texans. Additionally, clear, statutory authority would strengthen TWC's ability to deter and penalize UI fraud.

Key Recommendations

- Clearly authorize TWC to require identification verification for UI claimants.
- Authorize TWC to use bank levies to recover fraudulent overpayments.
- Direct TWC to develop clear, detailed procedures for agency staff to supervise child care fraud investigations.

ISSUE 6**TWC Should Improve Coordination With DFPS and Update Its Internal Processes to More Effectively Administer the Child Care Subsidy Program.**

TWC is the state's lead agency administering the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). However, the agency lacks sufficient visibility over which funds DFPS uses for child care, preventing TWC from ensuring that all rules concerning CCDF are followed. TWC also does not provide adequate training for DFPS staff or DFPS contractors who make referrals for child care using CCDF, creating an environment susceptible to the improper use of federal funds. Improving communication and training

would better ensure lasting coordination between TWC and DFPS and better prepare frontline staff to use CCDF correctly.

TWC uses outdated methods for surveying child care providers, relying on diminishing provider response rates to inform baseline data used to calculate child care subsidy rates. Improving the child care market rate assessment methodology and timing would provide the agency and Legislature with better quality data for decision making.

Key Recommendations

- Direct TWC to require DFPS to provide a breakdown of the amount and source of funds spent for TWC-contracted day care.
- Direct TWC to conduct periodic training on CCDF federal requirements and the child care subsidy program for key DFPS staff and contractors.
- Direct TWC to issue a new request for proposal for the market rate survey contract, including a requirement that any bid includes hybrid, up-to-date methods for conducting the survey.

ISSUE 7

Texas Has a Continuing Need for the Texas Workforce Commission.

Though TWC has several areas for improvement, Texas has a continuing need for the agency's programs and services. For example, TWC's workforce development and UI services serve as a stopgap against economic hardship for those who qualify. TWC's child care and early learning programs help working parents access affordable and quality child care, and the agency's VR programs help eligible individuals with disabilities gain employment and live as independently as possible. Sunset staff considered organizational alternatives for administering TWC's programs but concluded no substantial benefit would result from transferring major functions, with the exception of the CSC program, or merging TWC with another agency. Additionally, TWC continues to be the appropriate agency to oversee the Purchasing from People with Disabilities (PPD) program, which assists individuals with disabilities transitioning to independence and offers services in participants' communities. The program has a separate statutory abolishment date from TWC that is unnecessary, as the program will be evaluated as part of TWC's next Sunset review.

Key Recommendations

- Continue TWC for 12 years.
- Remove the Sunset date from the PPD statute.

ISSUE 8

The Texas Workforce Commission's Statute and Processes Do Not Reflect Some Standard Elements of Sunset Reviews.

Certain processes and statutory provisions for TWC do not align with standard Sunset review elements derived from direction traditionally provided by the Sunset Commission, statutory requirements added by the Legislature to the criteria for review in the Sunset Act, or general law provisions imposed on

state agencies. Specifically, this review identified changes needed to conform TWC's statutes to standard Sunset language generally applied to all state agencies and address the need for TWC's required reports. The review also identified the need to address TWC's four-year rule review process and its use of artificial intelligence (AI) systems.

Key Recommendations

- Apply the standard across-the-board requirements regarding the governor's appointment of the presiding officer, commission member training, public testimony, and developing and maintaining a complaints system to TWC.
- Abolish three of TWC's reporting requirements and include in the overall annual report information currently published in five other reports.
- Direct TWC to update policy guiding its rule review process and track and evaluate metrics on its use of AI systems.

ISSUE 9

The State Has a Continuing Need for the Texas Workforce Investment Council.

The Texas Workforce Investment Council fulfills the federal requirement that states must maintain a state-level workforce development board to plan, evaluate, and coordinate workforce services. Beyond meeting federal requirements, the council provides a unique value to the state by evaluating the collective effectiveness of the state's workforce system. Sunset staff evaluated the need for keeping the council's functions administratively attached to the Office of the Governor and found no significant benefits to relocating these responsibilities or consolidating them with another entity.

However, Sunset staff found that two of the council's functions are no longer necessary. The Texas Skill Standards program has become a legacy program that no longer aligns with the goals of the state's modern workforce development infrastructure and is duplicative of industry-based certifications. Additionally, the council is statutorily required to act as a fiscal intermediary for the Automated Follow-up and Evaluation System, which is designed to track what happens to individuals after exiting education and workforce training programs. This function provides no meaningful financial protection or oversight benefit to the state.

Key Recommendations

- Continue the Texas Workforce Investment Council for 12 years.
- Abolish the Texas Skill Standards program.
- Modify statute to remove the council's responsibility to serve as fiscal intermediary for the Automated Follow-up and Evaluation System.

Fiscal Implication Summary

Though the recommendations in this report would not have a significant fiscal impact to the state, some recommendations could result in costs and savings that will depend on implementation and therefore

cannot be determined at this time. In Issue 1, the recommendation directing TWC to standardize guidance and procedures for TPPs in the SNAP E&T program has the potential for a positive fiscal impact as TPPs invest more in SNAP E&T and Texas is able to draw down additional federal funds in the future. Though the recommendation in Issue 3 directing the VR program to abolish its regional structure would have no fiscal impact to the state because VR funding is mostly federal, an organizational restructure would make available over \$10.6 million annually and about 200 FTEs for TWC to use more efficiently within the VR program. The costs and savings associated with recommendations in Issue 5 will depend on how much fraud occurs and how effective TWC is at recovering expended funds and penalties. However, based on fiscal year 2025 fraud data, the potential annual benefit to the state is approximately \$2.9 million in general revenue and \$1.6 million to the Unemployment Compensation Fund. The recommendation in Issue 9 eliminating the Texas Skill Standards program would result in an estimated annual savings of \$50,000 to the council, but this change would have no net fiscal impact on the state as the council is funded by its member agencies. Other recommendations in the report would require TWC staff time to complete but could be implemented using existing resources.