

The TRUE Pathways Design and Planning Grant Informational Webinar will be starting shortly

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant

Informational Webinar

May 5, 2025

The Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) Grant Program was established by the 87th Legislature (Senate Bill 1102) and codified in Texas Education Code Sections 61.881-61.886.

Rules for the TRUE Grant Program are in Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter N, Sections 13.400-408.

The TRUE Grant Program received biennial funding during the 88th Texas Legislative Session.

TRUE Pathways Design and Planning Grant

The TRUE Pathways Design and Planning Grant provides funding for public two-year community and technical colleges to design and plan a selected career and technical education (CTE) pathway consisting of one or more closely related occupations and associated credentials of value in a high demand field.

TRUE High Demand COV Pathway Design and Planning Grant Example

KEY DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

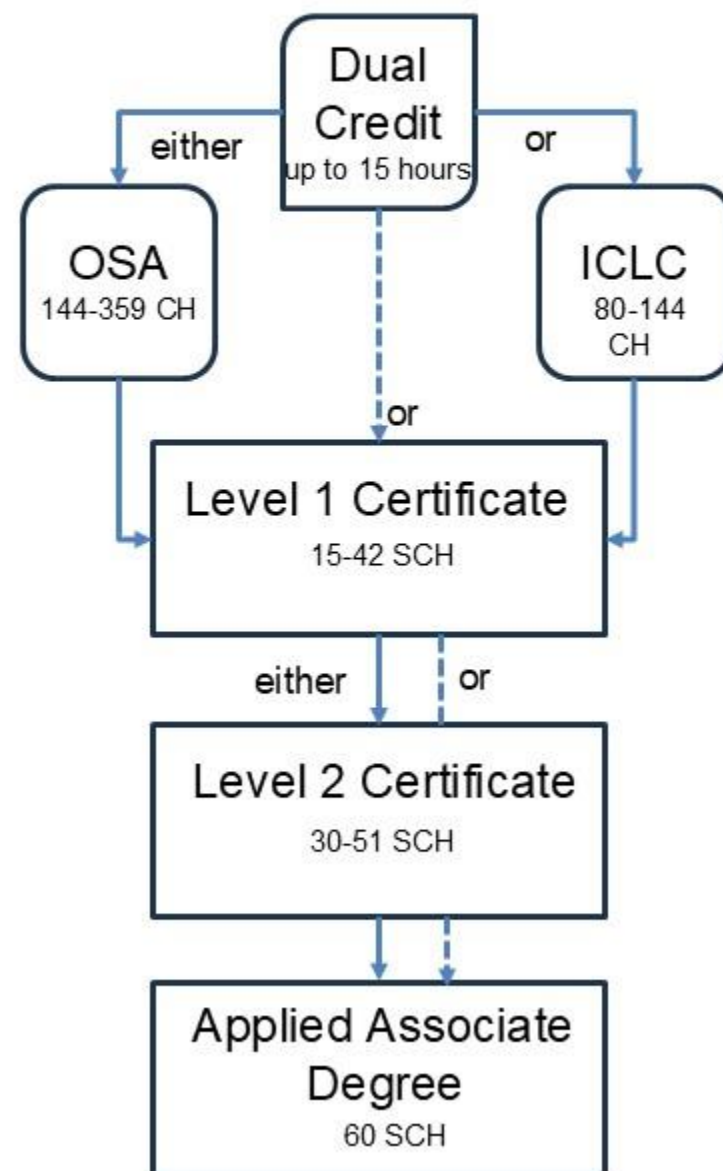
1. High demand occupation credential
2. 100 percent vertical credit articulation to next COV
3. Lateral credit articulation plan for related SCH and CH
4. Each postsecondary COV has meaningful exit/employment
5. Regional employers included in design work
6. Regional ISDs included in design work

KEY INSTITUTIONAL OUTPUTS

1. Articulated program map
2. Program approval(s)
3. Student advising plan
4. CEU-to-SCH conversion plan
5. Credit articulation plan
6. Enrollment management policy and plan
7. Tuition & fee structure (accommodate credit articulation)
8. Faculty recruitment plan
9. Registrar and records policy and plan
10. Transcript to include credit articulation
11. Equipment acquisition plan
12. Facilities acquisition or renovation plan
13. CBM reporting plan (009, 00M)

KEY GRANT ELEMENTS

1. Fifteen-month planning grant July 2025-September 2026
2. Up to five institutions
3. \$150,000-\$200,000 award
4. Potential two-year implementation grant Fall 2026-Fall 2028



TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant Eligibility

- This is a competitive grant award. Applications will be evaluated, ranked, and awarded until funds are fully obligated.
- Eligible applicants:
 - Texas public, lower-division institutions of higher education (public junior colleges, public state colleges, public technical institutes)

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant Awards

Award Range

\$150,000 to \$200,000

- Approximately \$1 million is awarded for four to five grants.
- Grant periods are approximately 15 months.
- Eligible applicants may submit one application.
- Applicants must secure a technical assistance provider to support the grant project and budget for that support.

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant Budgets

Allowable Cost Categories

- Personnel Compensation
- Technical Assistance: project management; coordination with other pathways projects; institutional coaching and support; capacity-building assistance
- Resources and Data Tools
- Other Direct Costs – Additional expenditure categories must be submitted for approval at the discretion of THECB.

Technical Assistance Contracting and Budgets

- State the selected technical assistance provider in the application. The selection is subject to a request for THECB written approval within 30 days of the grant award start date.
- Contracting with the technical assistance provider must be completed within 60 days of the grant award start date.
- Project budget review with the technical assistance provider is required. Any consequent budget revisions must be submitted for approval within 90 days of the grant award start date.

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant Application Process

Application materials are available through the TRUE Grant Hub, which is a Smartsheet-based location.

TRUE Grant Program Hub

- RFA for reference
- Application Form
- Budget Request Form

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant Website

General information and links to application materials are available on the THECB webpage:

TRUE Pathways Design and Planning Grant

- RFA
- Link to the TRUE Grant Hub
- Slide Deck from this informational webinar
- Recording from this informational webinar

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant Timeline

- April 25, 2025
Grant
Announcement
- May 5, 2025
Informational Webinar
- May 16, 2025
Last Day for Inquiries
- *May 23, 2025
Applications Due*
- June 2025
Grant Notifications
- July 1, 2025
Grant Period Begins
- September 2026
End of Grant Period

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant Proposal Review Considerations

- Best overall value to the state
- Project quality, determined by evaluation criteria
- Projects that exhibit priority criteria
- Consideration of institutional size - selection of at least one applicant in each size category: small, medium, large, and extra-large. Applicant institutions will be considered with same size-classified institutions.
- Consideration of location - grant awards across regions

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant Priority Proposals

- Priority in application review will be given to the following:
 - Sector Selection – THECB-approved statewide or regional high-demand field selected
 - Institutional Size and Region – size classification comparisons; distribution across regions
 - Technical Assistance (TA) Provider Selection – demonstrated experience and results with Texas two-year public institutions

TRUE Pathways Evaluation Criteria

General Considerations (60 Possible Points)	Maximum Points
Selection of Credentials of Value Pathway	10
Project Work Plan (Total 15 points)	
Project Goal Statement	5
Project Objectives & Expected Outcomes	10
Applicant Capacity and Partners	10
Technical Assistance Provider Selection	5
Budget Alignment with Project Costs	10
Overall Rating	10
Priority Considerations (10 Possible Points)	
High-Demand Sector	5
Institutional Size/Region	0
TA Provider w/Texas Experience	5
Total Possible Points	70

Tips for Quality Applications

- Make robust use of labor market information during your Credential of Value Pathway selection and include descriptions in the application.
- Incorporate the key institutional outputs outlined on Slide 5 (also Appendix E in the RFA) in the application.
- Be sure to describe past and project-related collaboration with employers and regional/local independent school districts.
- Include all required information regarding Technical Assistance selection and abide by the calendar for TA contracting and budget.
- Create a budget that demonstrates necessary and reasonable project costs and check with your internal legal/sponsored projects team about state requirements and regulations on expenditure categories.

Questions?

Thank you!

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