

# TEXAS COLLEGE WORK-STUDY PROGRAM (TCWS)

## TEXAS EDUCATION CODE (TEC), TITLE 3, CHAPTER 56, SUBCHAPTER E

Sec. 56.071. PROGRAM NAME. The student financial assistance program authorized by this subchapter shall be known as the Texas college work-study program.

Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 1151, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1989.

Sec. 56.072. PURPOSE. The purpose of this subchapter is to provide eligible, financially needy students with jobs, funded in part by the State of Texas, to enable those students to attend eligible institutions of higher education, public or private, in Texas.

Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 1151, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1989.

Sec. 56.073. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall administer the Texas college work-study program. The coordinating board shall work with eligible institutions and employers to provide eligible students with part-time jobs funded in part by the state.

(b) State support for this program may not exceed the amount specified by appropriation.

Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 1151, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1989.

Sec. 56.074. ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION; PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS. (a) An eligible institution is:

(1) an institution of higher education; or

(2) a private or independent college, university, association, agency, institution, or facility that is located in this state which meets program standards and accreditation comparable to public institutions as determined by the board.

(b) To participate in the Texas college work-study program, an eligible institution must:

(1) provide employment to an eligible student in nonpartisan and nonsectarian activities;

(2) provide, insofar as is practicable, employment to an eligible student that is related to the student's academic interests;

(3) use work-study program positions only to supplement and not supplant positions normally filled by persons not eligible to participate in the work-study program;

(4) provide from sources other than federal college work-study program funds a percentage of an employed student's wages that is equal to the percentage of a student's wages that the eligible institution would be required to provide to the student in that academic year under the federal college work-study program; and

(5) provide from sources other than federal college work-study funds 100 percent of other employee benefits for the employed student.

Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 1151, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1989.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1305 (H.B. [3808](#)), Sec. 4, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 56.075. ELIGIBLE STUDENT. (a) To be eligible for employment in the work-study program a person must:

(1) be a Texas resident as defined by coordinating board rules;  
(2) be enrolled for at least one-half of a full course load and conform to an individual course of study in an eligible institution;

(3) establish financial need in accordance with coordinating board procedures and rules; and  
(4) comply with other requirements adopted by the coordinating board under this subchapter.

(b) A person is not eligible to participate in the work-study program if the person:

(1) receives an athletic scholarship; or  
(2) is enrolled in a seminary or other program leading to ordination or licensure to preach for a religious sect or to be a member of a religious order.

Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 1151, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1989.

Sec. 56.076. ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER. (a) An eligible institution may enter into agreements with employers that participate in the work-study program. To be eligible to participate in the work-study program, an employer must:

(1) provide part-time employment to an eligible student in nonpartisan and nonsectarian activities;  
(2) provide, insofar as is practicable, employment to an eligible student that is related to the student's academic interests;

(3) use Texas college work-study program positions only to supplement and not to supplant positions normally filled by persons not eligible to participate in the work-study program;

(4) provide from sources other than federal college work-study program funds a percentage of an employed student's wages that is equal to the percentage of a student's wages that the employer would be required to provide to the student in that academic year under the federal college work-study program; and

(5) provide from sources other than federal college work-study funds 100 percent of other employee benefits for the employed student.

(b) Repealed by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1305 (H.B. [3808](#)), Sec. 9, eff. June 14, 2019.

Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 1151, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1989.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1181 (S.B. [1227](#)), Sec. 19, eff. September 1, 2005.

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1230 (H.B. [1172](#)), Sec. 4, eff. June 18, 2005.

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1216 (S.B. [1750](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 19, 2015.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1305 (H.B. [3808](#)), Sec. 9, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 56.077. ADOPTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF RULES. (a) The coordinating board may adopt reasonable rules, consistent with the purposes and policies of this subchapter, to enforce the requirements, conditions, and limitations expressed by this subchapter.

(b) The coordinating board shall adopt rules necessary to ensure compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI (Pub. L. No. 88-352), concerning nondiscrimination in admissions or employment.

(c) The coordinating board shall distribute to each eligible institution copies of all rules adopted under this subchapter.

Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 1151, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1989.

Sec. 56.078. FUNDING. Funding to cover the state's contribution toward the funding of the work-study program under this subchapter and the Texas WORKS internship program under Subchapter E-1 is payable from funds appropriated for that purpose.

Added by Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 1151, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1989.

Amended by:

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1305 (H.B. [3808](#)), Sec. 5, eff. June 14, 2019.

Sec. 56.079. WORK-STUDY STUDENT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM. (a) In this section:

(1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(2) "Eligible institution" means:

(A) an institution of higher education; or

(B) a private or independent institution of higher education, as defined by Section [61.003](#)(15), other than a private or independent institution of higher education offering only professional or graduate degrees.

(3) "Participating entity" means an eligible institution, a school district, or a nonprofit organization that has filed a memorandum of understanding with the coordinating board under this section to participate in the work-study student mentorship program established under this section.

(b) In accordance with this section and coordinating board rules, the coordinating board shall administer a work-study student mentorship program under which students who are enrolled at participating eligible institutions and who meet the eligibility requirements for employment in the Texas college work-study program under Section [56.075](#) may be employed by participating entities under the Texas college work-study program to:

(1) mentor students at participating eligible institutions or high school students in participating school districts;

(2) counsel high school students at GO Centers or similar high school-based recruiting centers designed to improve student access to higher education; or

(3) support student interventions at participating eligible institutions that are focused on increasing completion of degrees or certificates, such as interventions occurring through advising or supplemental instruction.

(c) To participate in the work-study student mentorship program under Subsection (b)(1) or (2), an eligible institution and one or more school districts or nonprofit organizations interested in jointly participating in the program shall file with the coordinating board a joint memorandum of understanding detailing the roles and responsibilities of the participating entities.

(d) The coordinating board shall develop, when applicable and in consultation with eligible institutions, school districts, and nonprofit organizations that express interest in participating in the work-study student mentorship program, a standard contract establishing the roles and responsibilities of participating entities to be used as a model for a memorandum of understanding entered into by participating entities under Subsection (c).

(e) The coordinating board:

(1) shall establish criteria to ensure that the participating eligible institution's contribution toward the wages and benefits of a student employed under the work-study student mentorship program as provided by Subsection (b)(1) or (2) is matched by funds provided by the participating entity benefiting from the services of the employed student in an amount that is at least equal to the amount of the participating eligible institution's contribution;

(2) may accept appropriate in-kind contributions from participating nonprofit organizations to satisfy the matching funds requirement of this subsection; and

(3) may waive the matching funds requirement of this subsection for a participating entity that meets criteria established by the coordinating board for a waiver.

(f) The coordinating board may partner with participating nonprofit organizations to establish additional GO Centers or similar high school-based recruiting centers designed to improve student access to and success in higher education in this state.

(g) The coordinating board shall ensure that each student employed under the work-study student mentorship program:

(1) receives appropriate training and supervision; and

(2) is paid at least at the minimum wage required by law.

(h) The coordinating board may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any public or private source for the purposes of this section.

(i) An eligible institution participating in the work-study student mentorship program under this section may require students who are on academic probation at the institution to be matched with a student mentor or advisor employed under the program.

(j) Expired.

(k) Each eligible institution participating in the work-study student mentorship program under this section shall set aside a portion of the institution's Texas college work-study program funds to pay for the state's contribution toward the costs of the program.

(l) Notwithstanding Section [56.076\(a\)](#), a participating entity that employs a student mentor under the work-study student mentorship program shall provide from sources other than federal college work-study funds:

(1) not less than 10 percent of the employed student's wages; and

(2) 100 percent of other employee benefits for the employed student.

Added by Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1230 (H.B. [1172](#)), Sec. 5, eff. June 18, 2005.

Amended by:

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 804 (S.B. [1050](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 15, 2007.

Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1049 (S.B. [5](#)), Sec. 9.01(b)(6), eff. September 1, 2013.

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1216 (S.B. [1750](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 19, 2015.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 187 (S.B. [2082](#)), Sec. 1, eff. May 26, 2017.

Sec. 56.080. ONLINE LIST OF WORK-STUDY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. Each institution of higher education shall:

(1) establish and maintain an online list of work-study employment opportunities, sorted by department as appropriate, available to students on the institution's campus; and

(2) ensure that the list is easily accessible to the public through a clearly identifiable link that appears in a prominent place on the financial aid page of the institution's Internet website.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 467 (S.B. [305](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 19, 2009.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 681 (H.B. [2504](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 19, 2009.

Sec. 56.082. ANNUAL REPORT. Not later than January 1 of each year, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the standing legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education and post on the coordinating board's Internet website a report on the Texas college work-study program and the Texas WORKS internship program under Subchapter E-I. The report must include the total number of students employed through the programs, disaggregated by:

(1) race, ethnicity, and gender;

(2) major and certificate or degree program;

(3) classification as a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior or the equivalent;

(4) enrollment in a full course load or less than a full course load, as determined by the coordinating

board;

(5) the employment position's location on or off campus; and

(6) the employer's status as a for-profit or nonprofit entity.

Added by Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1216 (S.B. [1750](#)), Sec. 3, eff. June 19, 2015.

Amended by:

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1159 (S.B. [1119](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 15, 2017.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1305 (H.B. [3808](#)), Sec. 6, eff. June 14, 2019.