

The Webinar will be starting shortly.

“Our Texas institutions are making significant commitments to create programs that keep more students on track to enter the workforce with the high-value credentials and education that tomorrow’s economy will demand.”

– Commissioner of Higher Education Harrison Keller

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Texas Reskilling Support Fund Grant Program Round 3

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Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund

- **Need-based financial aid - \$57 million**
- **Direct student support - \$93 million**
 - Emergency aid - \$46.50 million
 - **Reskilling Support Fund - \$46.5 million**
- **Online learning support - \$10 million**
 - OER development - \$4.3 million
 - Learning analytics - \$4.5 million
 - Digital learning clearinghouse - \$1.2 million
- **Data infrastructure - \$15 million**
 - Advising support - \$4 million
 - Student progress dashboards - \$1 million
 - Data modernization - \$10 million

Texas Reskilling Support Fund Grant Program

Funding: \$46.5 million

Purpose: Support for displaced Texas workers who need to reskill or upskill to quickly move back into the workforce as well as Texas students who have previously stopped out of higher education institutions without completing a postsecondary credential.

Coverage: Tuition/fees and cost of attendance for students pursuing credentials of value.

Grant Competition

- Open to all public two and four-year institutions and technical colleges; private or independent nonprofit institutions; public and private nonprofit health-related institutions
- If your institution already holds Reskilling grants, you are still eligible to apply for Round 3 support
- Each eligible institution may submit one (1) application
- Grantee institutions must expend funds by **Sept. 30, 2022**

RFA Sections 3.1, 3.4

Grant Requests

Award size	Minimum # of students supported	Estimated number of awards, all rounds
\$1,500,000	1,000	15
\$750,000	500	20
\$300,000	200	20
\$112,500	75	20

RFA Section 2.1

Grant Duration/Reporting Schedule

Grant and Report Calendar

Report	Reporting Period	Date Due
First Program & Financial Report	9.1.21-12.15.21	12.31.21
Second Program & Financial Report	12.16.21-5.15.22	5.30.22
Third Program & Financial Report	5.16.22-7.31.22	8.30.22
Grant Period Ends		9.30.22
Final Program & Financial Report	8.1.22-9.30.22	10.28.22

Student Eligibility

Criteria for student eligibility for support:

- Texas residents eligible for in-state tuition as determined by the institution;
- Have filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA);
- Are eligible for federal Title IV aid. Students who are enrolled in short-term ineligible Title IV workforce credential programs but who are otherwise Title IV eligible may be included;
- Have affirmed they were affected by COVID-19. Institutions may establish their own processes for determining COVID-19 impact;
- Be enrolled in an eligible academic degree program or short-term workforce credential program as described in this RFA on either a full time or part time basis; and
- Have not been enrolled in an accredited postsecondary institution in the previous academic (long) semester or previous six months.

Student Awards

- “Middle dollar” award after state or institutional aid is received
- Not to exceed an eligible student’s demonstrated financial need
- May only be used for tuition/fees and cost of attendance
 - Up to \$500 of an award may be for cost of attendance as determined by the institution
 - Up to \$500 may be awarded to eligible students without consideration of need
- Capped at \$2,500 per semester/term per student

RFA Section 5.2

Eligible Credential Programs

High-Value Short-Term Workforce Credential Programs

- High-value short-term workforce credential programs of fewer than 60 semester credit hours
- Credential programs that may be converted to credit or are stackable to credit-bearing programs, Level 1 Certificates, Level 2 Certificates, Level 3 Enhanced Skills Awards, and Advanced Technology Certificates
- Eligible high-value workforce credential programs must either:
 - Be aligned with high-value occupations in the region as determined by the most recent TWC Target Occupations regional list; or
 - Be aligned with high-value occupations that offer above-average wages and demonstrate strong job placement for the region as determined by the institution. The institution must examine pertinent labor market information in partnership with regional employers and in consultation with the Regional Workforce Development Board.

Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Programs

Associate, Baccalaureate, Post-Baccalaureate, Masters, Doctoral, and Post-Doctoral programs that represent high-value to students in terms of their occupational pathway following credential completion.

RFA Section 5.2

Funding for Marketing/Outreach

- Up to 10% of the value of the grant may be used for the purpose of marketing and outreach to students regarding the Reskilling grant opportunity.
- Grantees that exercise this option need to provide the THECB Assistant Commissioner for Communications with their marketing/outreach plans before beginning operations.

RFA Section 6.2.1

Selection Criteria – Core Factors

- Degree to which the submitted plan matches program priorities
- Strength/clarity of the rationale supporting the selection of high-value credentials and degree programs
- Strength/clarity of the aid distribution plan
- Track record/assurances regarding the capacity to identify and track students who are supported by the program

RFA Section 7.2, Appendix C

Additional Selection Criteria – Bonus Points

- Compelling additional information on the COVID-19 related needs of students and plans for outreach to prospective students
- Plan of action to deploy funds rapidly (timeline)
- Establishment or expansion of partnerships or consortia with other eligible institutions
- 30% or more of enrolled students at the institution(s) hold At Risk status

RFA Section 7.3, Appendix C

Application

- Certification
- Grant request
- Contact information
- Project summary
 - Credential programs selected
 - Description of how credential programs were selected
 - Description of distribution plan
 - Information on student identification and tracking

Application (*cont'd*)

- Description of applicant(s)
 - Rationale for request
 - Level of commitment
 - If applicable, rationale for partnership or consortium and sharing of responsibilities
- Assessment of need
- Projected timeline and estimated number of students supported
- At Risk students

Resources

- Texas Workforce Commission target occupations by region
- Consultations with employers, local workforce boards, employer advisory committees
- Institution research on labor market trends
- Perkins CLNA or WIOA plan
- Texas Workforce Development Toolkit

Reskilling Round 3 Timeline

Oct. 11, 2021: Round 3 grant opportunity announced

Oct. 18, 2021: Informational webinar

Nov. 1, 2021: Last day for applicant inquiries

Nov. 3, 2021: Application deadline

On or about Nov. 18, 2021: Award announcement

Questions?

Point of Contact
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