

TRUE Pathways Design & Planning Grant 2026-27

Informational Webinar

May 7, 2026

TRUE Pathways Design and Planning Grant “TRUE PDP 2026”

The TRUE Pathways Design and Planning Grant (TRUE PDP) 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.

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

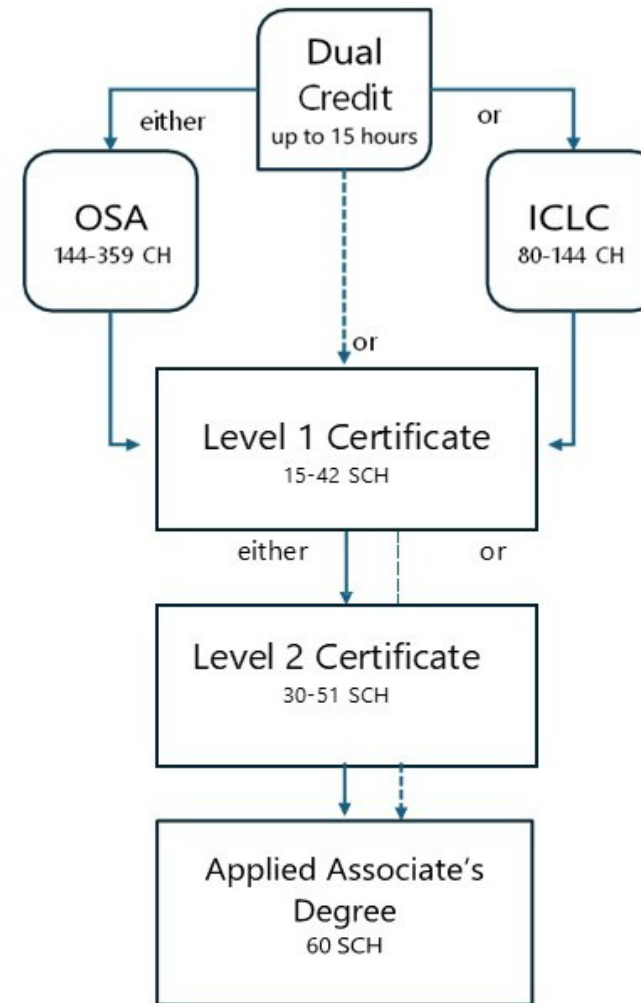
KEY INSTITUTIONAL OUTPUTS

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 2026-October 2027
2. Five or more grantee institutions
3. \$150,000-\$200,000 award
4. Potential two-year implementation grant Fall 2027-Fall 2029

TRUE PDP High Demand Credential of Value Example



TRUE PDP 2026 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 PDP 2026 Grant Awards

Award Range
\$150,000 to \$200,000

- Five or more grants depending on available funding.
- 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.

Applications

TRUE PDP 2026 Website

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

[TRUE Pathways Design and Planning Grant 2026-2027](#)

- TRUE PDP 2026 RFA
- Link to GMS
- Slide Deck from this informational webinar
- Recording from this informational webinar

TRUE PDP 2026 Grant Application

Application materials are available in THECB's Grant Management System (GMS). Application materials consist of:

- Certification of Application Information
- Work Plan and Evaluation Narratives
- Budget Request Form (Grant Budget Tracker)

TRUE PDP 2026 Timeline

- **April 30, 2026**
Grant
Announcement
- **May 7, 2026**
Informational Webinar
- **May 26, 2026**
Last Day for Inquiries
- **May 29, 2026**
Applications Due
- **June 2026**
Grant Notifications
- **July 8, 2026**
Grant Period Begins
- **October 2027**
End of Grant Period

TRUE PDP 2026 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 PDP 2026 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.

TRUE PDP 2026 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

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.

THECB GMS Grant Application Process

THECB Grants Administration Guidance

THECB's website features information on **GMS**, including a FAQ and Grantee User Guide:

[GMS Frequently Asked Questions & Resources - Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board](#)

Please note **GMS** is configured to work optimally in the [Google Chrome](#) browser.

Getting Started Registration

1. Visit the THECB Online Grants Portal at thecb.fluxx.io
2. Click **Create Account**.
3. Enter information about you and organization (institution).
4. Click **Submit Request**.
5. Once approved, you will receive an email with an assigned username and a link to set up a password.

1 <https://thecb.fluxx.io>

Texas Higher Education COORDINATING BOARD

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Login (all fields required)

Username

Password

[Forgot Password?](#)

New to the Online Portal?

Create Your Organizational Profile

To be considered for funding, the first step is to introduce yourself and tell us about your organization. Please click the "Create Account" button below to start.

You will then receive an automated email notification with the login information granting you access to the portal and our application forms. Should your funding application be successful, this portal will give you access to our reporting templates.

Please visit THECB website (<https://www.highered.texas.gov/institutional-grant-opportunities>) for a current list of grant opportunities.

FLUXX

[Privacy Policy](#) [Accessibility](#)

2

3 **Texas Higher Education COORDINATING BOARD**

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

You will receive an email with login information from *fluxx.io* 1-3 business days after submitting this form. Be sure to check your junk/spam folder and verify with your IT administration that you can accept emails from the URL: *fluxx.io*.

Important Notes:

- To register, it is your responsibility to provide true, complete, and accurate information.
- Updates to existing account information can be made as needed after initial registration approval.
- Approval of a registration in this online portal does not imply grant award approval. Each grant opportunity must be applied for individually.

Required fields are bold with an asterisk*

Organization Information

Organization Name*

Organization Legal Name

This typically refers to the name of the organization as registered with the Texas Comptroller.

Acronym or DBA

DBA = Doing Business As

4

Online Portal Preview

When you enter the [portal](#), use the left-hand menu to access your project reports, monitor your budget, request budget changes, and more.



Navigate the portal using the left-hand menu.

The screenshot shows the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Online Grants Portal interface. The left-hand menu is dark grey with white text and icons. The main content area is white with a blue header. Five blue callout boxes with white text and arrows point to specific menu items:

- Read FAQs** points to the **FAQs** item under the **Grantee Portal** section.
- View Your Organization Information** points to the **Organizations (1)** item under the **ORGANIZATIONS (1)** section.
- View or Edit Your User Profile** points to the **People (1)** item under the **PEOPLE (1)** section.
- View or Apply for Grants** points to the **Grant Opportunities (2)** item under the **GRANT OPPORTUNITY (2)** section.
- Change Password or Log Out** points to the **FLUXX** settings icon at the bottom of the menu.

The main content area includes a **WELCOME** message, a confirmation message, and a list of grant programs currently within the portal:

- Texas Reskilling and Upskilling Through Education Grant Program (TRUE), 2027 cycle
- Graduate Medical Education Expansion Grant Program (GME Expansion), beginning with the 2025–2026 cycle
- Family Practice Residency Grant Program (FPRP), beginning with the 2026 cycle

Application Details

Under **GRANT OPPORTUNITY**, click on "Grant Opportunities."

Find Reference #1201 for the TRUE PDP 2026 Grant.

The screenshot displays a web application interface for grant management. On the left is a dark sidebar menu with categories like 'Test Organization', 'INFORMATION', 'ORGANIZATIONS (1)', 'PEOPLE (1)', 'GRANT OPPORTUNITY (23)', 'APPLICATIONS (51)', 'GRANTS (23)', and 'GRANTEE REPORTS (37)'. The 'GRANT OPPORTUNITY (23)' section is expanded to show 'Grant Opportunities (23)'. The main content area shows a list of grant opportunities, each with a reference number, program name, appropriation year, type of opportunity, and THECB contact. The selected grant (Reference Num: 1105) is highlighted in green. Below the list is a red-bordered button labeled 'Apply for TRUE Pathways Design and Planning Grant'. To the right, a detailed view of the grant is shown, including a table of administrative information and a document viewer. The table includes sections for 'ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION', 'DATES AND DEADLINE', 'AWARD INFORMATION', and 'ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS'. The document viewer shows a file named 'State RFA.docx' with a warning message: 'Current version added by Manny Garcia at 4:06 PM on February 20, 2026 This document has been automatically locked WARNING: test mode; all emails will be sent to grants@highered.texas.gov'.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION	
THECB Contact	Manny Garcia, Grant Coordinator - Program Specialist II Manny.Garcia@highered.texas.gov 555-555-5555
Grant Program Web Address	https://www.highered.texas.gov/
Grant Program Email Address	True@highered.texas.gov

DATES AND DEADLINE	
Expected Grant Start Date	March 20, 2026
Expected Grant End Date	March 19, 2027
Fiscal Year Start	2026
Inquiry Due Date	February 27, 2026
Inquiry Due Time	5:00 p.m.
Application Due Date	March 2, 2026
Application Due Time	5:00 p.m.

AWARD INFORMATION	
Number of Anticipated Awards	6
Anticipated Appropriation	1000000.0
Award Determination	competitive basis

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	
Eligible Applicants	Public 2-year Institution of Higher Education
Eligible Projects	Texas public junior colleges, public state colleges and public technical institutes.

Grant Announcement Or Request For Applications

State RFA.docx

Current version added by Manny Garcia at 4:06 PM on February 20, 2026 This document has been automatically locked WARNING: test mode; all emails will be sent to grants@highered.texas.gov

Organization & Contacts

- Contact Roles:
 - Person Authorized to Submit Application
 - Primary Signatory will authorize NOGA via DocuSign
 - Primary Financial Officer will verify financial information
 - Additional Contact 1 (optional)
 - Additional Contact 2 (optional)

Required fields are in bold with an asterisk*

Application Information

Be sure to **save frequently** to prevent loss of entered information.

An Eligible Applicant, either an eligible institution or eligible system, may submit a maximum of one (1) application.

If you have questions pertaining to the submission of the application, please contact THECB staff at THECB@highered.texas.gov.

Deadline for Submission: March 2, 2026 5:00 p.m.

Organization & Contact Information

Organization Name*

Department/Location (if applicable)

Person Authorized to Submit Application* [Add New](#)

Primary Signatory* [Add New](#)

Primary Financial Officer* [Add New](#)

Additional Contact 1 (Optional) [Add New](#)

Additional Contact 2 (Optional) [Add New](#)

Program Dates

Start Date*

End Date*

Add New

Table of Contents

- Contact Information

Required fields are in bold with an asterisk*

Contact Information

Prefix

First Name*

Last Name*

Email*

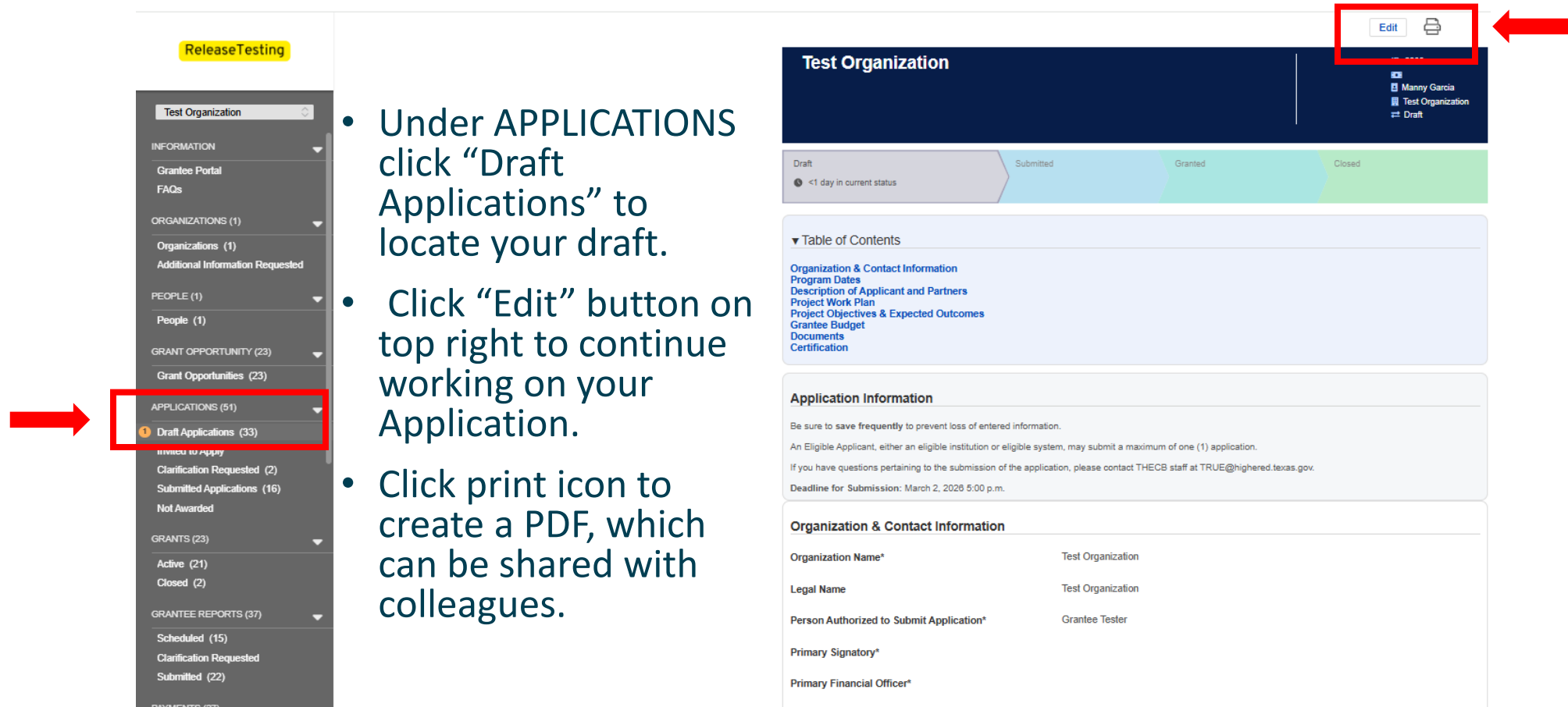
Title*

Work Phone*

Preferred Method of Contact*

- Email - Work
- Phone - Work
- Email - Personal
- Other

Application Draft, Editing, & Sharing



The image shows a screenshot of a web application interface. On the left is a dark sidebar menu with a 'ReleaseTesting' badge at the top. The 'APPLICATIONS (51)' section is expanded, and 'Draft Applications (33)' is highlighted with a red box and a red arrow pointing to it. The main content area shows the 'Test Organization' application details. At the top right of this section, 'Edit' and 'Print' icons are highlighted with a red box and a red arrow pointing to them. Below the application title is a progress bar with stages: Draft (<1 day in current status), Submitted, Granted, and Closed. A 'Table of Contents' section lists various application components. Below that is an 'Application Information' section with instructions and a deadline. At the bottom is an 'Organization & Contact Information' section with a table of details.

- Under APPLICATIONS click “Draft Applications” to locate your draft.
- Click “Edit” button on top right to continue working on your Application.
- Click print icon to create a PDF, which can be shared with colleagues.

Organization & Contact Information	
Organization Name*	Test Organization
Legal Name	Test Organization
Person Authorized to Submit Application*	Grantee Tester
Primary Signatory*	
Primary Financial Officer*	

Description of Applicants/Partners

- In this section, provide information about your organization and partners.
- Include detailed information about your partner roles and contributions.

Description of Applicant and Partners

Provide information on Applicant and Partners such as local ISDs, employers, or workforce boards expected to participate in the program/project, including detailed information on their roles and contributions. Clearly describe partners' level of commitment to the project. Include information about any additional third party or participant involvement. Particular attention should be paid to information regarding Technical Assistance Providers, as specified in the RFA.

Applicant had positions and/or projects funded by the Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education (TRUE) grant program during previous grant periods.*

Yes
 No

Has your organization been funded by any other THECB grant program(s) as of calendar year 2019?*

Yes
 No

Describe institution's participation in previous pathways initiatives.*
Enter "N/A" if none.

Characters left for field: 3500

Description of Applicants/Partners (con't.)

- Requires selection of your institutional size.
- It is strongly encouraged that you fill in all box/narrative sections.
- Text can be entered in real-time or pasted from a secondary source.

Applicant's institutional size category as determined by THECB's Texas Public Higher Education Almanac*

Describe Applicant's institutional capacity to carry out similar projects in an efficient and successful manner.*
Enter "N/A" if none.

Small
Medium
Large
Extra-Large

Characters left for field: 3500

Describe any partnerships with employer(s) in the selected high-demand occupation(s) applicable to this project.*
Enter "N/A" if none.

Characters left for field: 3500

Describe any previous and intended collaborations with local and/or regional Independent School Districts.*
Enter "N/A" if none.

Characters left for field: 3500

State the technical assistance provider that the Applicant intends to contract with and include a provider description/rationale as to why the provider was selected.*
Upload a bio of the organization or individual via the Documents section of this application.

Characters left for field: 3500

Upload a bio of the organization or individual via the Documents section of this application.

Project Work Plan

Objectives & Expected Outcomes

- The Project Work Plan should include:
 - Project Goal Statement
 - Objectives
 - Activities
 - Deliverables
 - Outcomes

Project Work Plan

The Project Work Plan should include the Project Goal Statement, objectives, activities, deliverables, and outcomes. Each objective should be supported by one or more activity or process, and result in one or more deliverable. Refer to Section 8.2 of the RFA.

Project Goal Statement*

Characters left for field: 3500

Project Objectives & Expected Outcomes

Objectives should be specific and measurable. The required deliverables must be linked to the related project objective and activities. The expected outcomes should be clearly articulated, relate to the objective, and include appropriate measures for assessment of those objectives.

Describe this project's objectives.*

Characters left for field: 3500

Describe expected outcomes.*

Characters left for field: 3500

- Project Objectives should be specific and measurable.
- Expected outcomes should be clearly articulated.

Grant Budget Tracker

Grantee Budget

▼ Quick Grant Budget Tracker (GBT) Guide

Periods

- Add a period and enter the reporting period dates for each expense reporting period. Reference the grant opportunity reporting schedule for details.
- Click the plus sign (+) next to "Period #" to add the applicable amount of reporting periods.

Budget Categories

- THECB Grants Management System (GMS) Grant Budget Tracker (GBT) categories are in alignment with Uniform Guidance: **2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E -- Cost Principles**, as outlined in 2 CFR, Part 200, and the Texas Comptroller's TxGMS developed under the authority of Gov't Code Ch. 783 to promote the efficient use of public funds in local government and in programs requiring cooperation among local, state, and Federal agencies.

Line Items

- Fill in the following columns, per line item: Line Item (description), Budget Category, Requested (\$ per reporting period).
- Click "+ Line Item" to add the applicable amount of line items.

▼ Grant Budget Tracker

Budget not yet added

Edit 

Click **Edit** button to open Grant Budget Tracker (GBT).

Grant Budget Tracker (GBT)

The screenshot shows the 'Edit Budget' interface. A red box labeled '1' highlights the 'Line Item' list on the left and the 'Budget Category' dropdown menu. A red box labeled '2' highlights the 'Requested' column in the table. A red box labeled '3' highlights the 'Grantee Comments' column. A red box labeled '4' highlights the 'Save' and 'Save and Close' buttons at the bottom right. The table has columns for 'Period 1', 'Start date', 'End date', 'Total', 'Requested', 'requested', 'Percentage', 'Grantee Comments', and 'Staff Feedback'. The 'Requested' column shows a value of 0. The 'Percentage' column shows 0%.

Period 1	Start date	End date	Total	Requested	requested	Percentage	Grantee Comments	Staff Feedback
				0	0	0%		

Total Requested: 0

1. Enter your budget line items. Match the budget categories.
2. Enter the requested amounts for each budget line item/category.
3. Enter brief description of Line/Budget Categories.
4. Save to continue working on form or Save and Close to proceed with the certification step.

Verify, Certify, & Authorize

1. Check that all information has been entered and saved

Certification of Information Contained in this Application

By submitting this application and supporting materials, and by checking the boxes below, you acknowledge your agreement to the following:

- You are an authorized representative of the institution with the authority to legally bind the applicant institution.
- All required questions in the application have been answered, and all required documentation is included in the application packet.
- You have thoroughly read and understand the grant program guidelines, application questions, and TIME requirements.
- All information provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of your knowledge.
- Any discrepancies or omissions may result in the rejection of this application or the forfeiture of grant funding.
- You acknowledge your commitment to submit all required reports in a timely manner as outlined in the application.
- You confirm that any data submitted is accurate and that there are no known conflicts of interest related to this grant application.

By checking this box, I attest to applicant understanding that submission of an application confers no entitlement to an award or to a subsequent agreement. The issuance of the Request for Applications (RFA) does not guarantee that any agreement will be awarded. THECB reserves the right to amend any terms or provisions of the RFA; negotiate with applicants; add, delete, or modify requirements or application components; extend the submission deadline; or withdraw the RFA at its discretion. An application may be rejected if it fails to meet any requirement of the RFA. THECB may request clarification or additional documentation from an applicant at any time, and failure to respond within a reasonable timeframe may result in rejection of the application.²

By checking this box, I attest that all of the information included is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I check this box as an endorsement of this acknowledgment, in lieu of my signature.²

Cancel Save Save and Close

1

2

Tips on Application Write-Up in GMS

- Paste information from another source.
- **Save** continuously. GMS does not autosave.
- Multiple users can access the Application, but only one user at a time can be in Edit mode.
- If you submit and need to make corrections, contact True@highered.texas.gov. Do not submit another Application.

Quality Proposals

TRUE PDP 2026 Evaluation Criteria

General Considerations (60 Possible Points)	Maximum Points
Selection of Credentials of Value Pathway	10
Project Work	15
Project Goal Statement	
Project Objectives & Expected Outcomes	
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 about that in the application.
- Incorporate the **key institutional outputs** outlined on Slide 4 (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 take note of 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.

Contacts

Tina Jackson, PhD

Assistant Commissioner for Workforce Education
tina.jackson@highered.texas.gov

Sheri Ranis, PhD

Director for Workforce Education and Innovation
sheri.ranis@highered.texas.gov

Manny Garcia

Grants Coordinator
manny.garcia@highered.texas.gov

TRUE@highered.texas.gov