

PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL WORKFORCE BOARDS

SUCCESS STORIES



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Workforce Boards: Quick Facts

- Most services are available at no cost.
- Boards work with all types of business – large and small and across all industries.
- Boards work with all types of job seekers – skilled and unskilled; employed, unemployed and underemployed; professional and blue-collar; young and mature.

Go to www.servicelocator.org/wibcontacts
to find the Workforce Board for your area

Workforce Authority and Funds

U.S. Congress (Federal legislation)

U.S. Department Of Labor
(with other federal agencies and federal funding sources)

State of Texas
(state laws passed to enable Federal legislation)

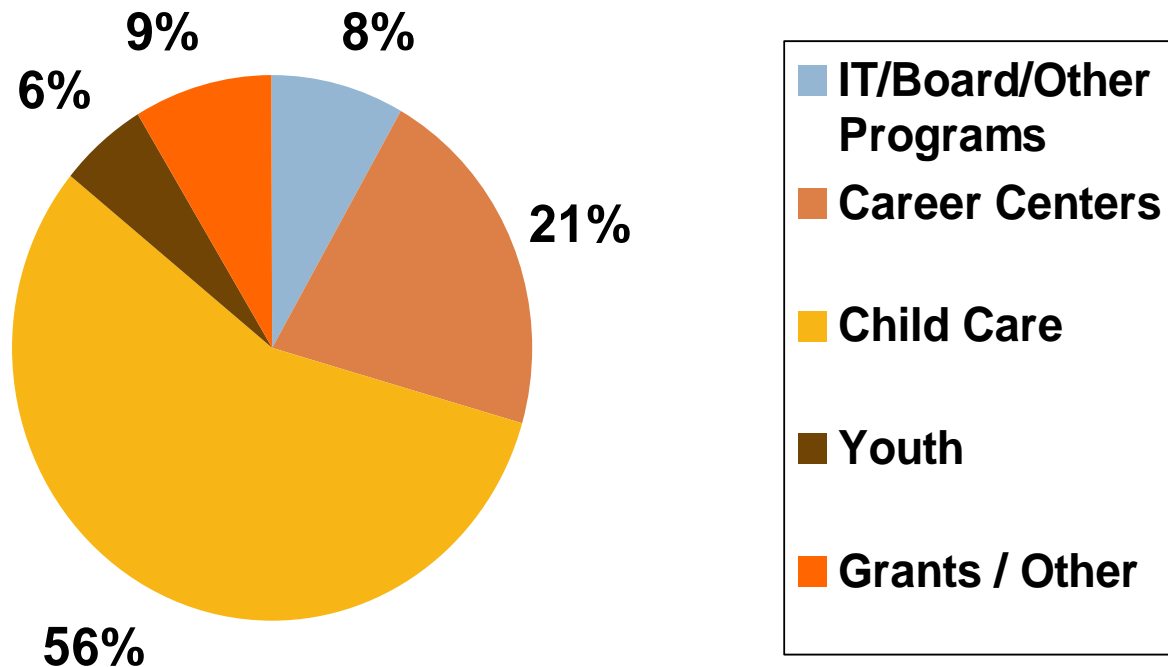
Texas Workforce Commission

Capital Area
is 1 of 28 local workforce boards

2009 Budget Breakdown: Austin Workforce Board

Between 9/1/08-9/30/09, the Austin Workforce Board invested **\$315,618.59** in training and equipment at ACC

Total = \$27,266,756



What do Workforce Boards do?

- Make decisions about the design of **local workforce services**, and **measure their impact** on local business and industry
- Identify, coordinate, and invest **resources**
- **Create and maintain partnerships** with local businesses, industries and educational providers in the area
- Ensure delivery of **federal and state funded workforce education and training programs**

Think of us as employment intermediaries.

Services for Job Seekers

Services for Businesses

- Career counselor staff
- Job matching services
- Labor market information
- Computers with Internet
- Fax machines, copiers, phones
- Job readiness workshops and seminars
- Information on training opportunities
- Access to Job fairs

- Job posting and applicant screening
- Targeted recruitment and job fairs
- Skills testing, assessment and evaluation
- Customized training and On-the-Job training
- Labor market information
- Information on tax credits
- Outplacement services (Rapid Response)

Last year through the public workforce system in Austin...

- **Over 5,000 job seekers** found employment through WorkInTexas.com.
- **Over 700 individuals** received training through the Workforce Investment Act.
- **Over 4,000 employers** received recruitment and hiring assistance from Workforce Solutions.
- **Over 400,000** visitors accessed the three Austin Career Center.

Beneficial Relationship

What are the ingredients of a good partnership?



How Community Colleges & Workforce Boards Partner

Workforce Boards: Provide case management and support services to job seekers, many of whom are economically disadvantaged

Community Colleges: Provide advising and information on educational programs available

Workforce Boards: Provide access to funding for tuition and support services

Community Colleges: Provide accessible low-cost quality instruction (both college credit and continuing education)

Workforce Boards: Assist with job placement, track retention and wage outcomes

Community Colleges: Provide programming that is up to date with local industry workforce needs

Workforce Boards: Provide access to funding for program development, and assist in management of grant-based projects

Community Colleges: Develop new programs based on industry, respond quickly to local industry demands

Challenges to Partnering with Workforce Boards

- Boards are limited to training for high-demand, high-growth occupations. These occupations are listed on our Target Occupation Lists. *(A notable exception is the recent change to the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program)*
- Target Occupation Lists can vary from one Board to the next.
- Funds may have strings attached -
 - Training is not a given for all participants. Services are based on what the student needs to become employed.
 - It can take some time to be determined eligible and suitable for training.
 - Funding may have time limits (i.e. ARRA funding)

Challenges to Partnering with Workforce Boards

- Boards can be impatient with a semester-based training system.
 - ▣ Often continuing education offers more flexible delivery models
 - ▣ Awarding college credit can depend on current relationship between continuing education and credit departments
- Source of funding may require stringent student tracking and reporting beyond what college is accustomed to
- The Boards see training as a means to an end: **employment**. We want to know that our functions support employment in good jobs, while colleges have limited control over employment of students after graduation
- Boards may vary in level of activity/participation with colleges

Successful Models for Partnerships

- **Adult Technology Training for Limited English Proficient students / VESL** – collaborated with ACC to design concurrent ESL/occupationally specific training. **Involved collaboration between Adult Ed / CE.**
- **Renewable Energy Training** – developed new CE and credit courses in clean energy, commissioned industry analysis and research, and created a website and video vignettes. **Involved collaboration with Credit / CE.**

www.coolaustinjobs.com

Successful Models for Partnerships, cont'd

- **Rapid Employment Model / Gainful Employment Model** – provides vocational assessment, pre-employment, and short-term skills training to economically disadvantaged clients who access either the Board's services or those through the County's Emergency Assistance Programs. **Provides a model for disadvantaged population and cohort training. Delivered through CE.**
- **ARRA Funding** – stimulus funding and policy flexibility provided opportunity to contract directly with ACC's Continuing Education for class-size cohorts at a reduced cost per student (when at maximum enrollment). **Provide enhanced model for cohort training and pricing negotiations. Involves collaboration between Credit / CE.**

Successful Models for Partnerships, cont'd

- **Jobs to Careers Project / Exceed** – funded by the Robert Wood Johnson and Hitachi Foundations, provided a work-based learning initiative that supports incumbent healthcare frontline healthcare workers in the form of job coaching, self-study, and classroom study. **Provided a work-based learning model where workers can receive credit (CE and college credit) for skills obtained on the job. Involves collaboration between Credit / CE.**

www.jobs2careers.org

Thank you for coming!

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