



# Youth Services Committee Meeting

**May 6, 2026**  
**3:00 pm**

**Bayview Tower**  
**400 Mann Street, Suite 800**  
**Bayview Large Conference Room**  
**Corpus Christi, TX**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6023106124?pwd=LGM5d67Dtb6LmUIVkd2iPYqMpA2DX.1&omn=85798886009>

Toll Free Dial-In

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 602 310 6124

Passcode: 205402

[www.workforcesolutionscb.org](http://www.workforcesolutionscb.org)

## Strategic Goals

- Establish and Strengthen Partnerships
- Effectively/Efficiently Target Rural Area Services
- Increase Workforce Awareness
- Expand Innovative Services to Business
- Explore New Revenue Opportunities
- Improve Internal Efficiencies
- Refine Board Culture

## Mission Statement

At Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, we invest in our regional economic success through access to jobs, training, and employer services.

## Value Statement

**A**ccountability – We address our customers and co-workers in a positive manner that elevates their spirit and creates a professional, supportive workplace for staff, job seekers, and employers.

**T**eamwork – We combine our individual talents for the benefit of the mission and common goals leveraging our unique abilities and contributions.

**T**rust – We consistently deliver on our commitments to our customers and co-workers to establish strong, sustainable relationships.

**I**ntegrity – We are honest, supportive, candid in addressing difficult issues, and willing to share success to demonstrate respect and consideration for our customers and co-workers.

**T**enacity – We resist giving up when the going gets tough and support our customers and co-workers in seeing that issues are resolved and the job gets done.

**U**nderstanding – We are serious and passionate about delivering our services with compassion and empathy.

**D**ignity – We interact with customers and co-workers professionally regardless of their backgrounds, experience, and circumstances to reflect our commitment as public servants.

**E**nthusiasm – We recognize the importance and value of our work and know that every day we have the opportunity to help build the economic success of our regional economy.

## Disclosure and Declaration of a Conflict of Interest

Conflicts of Interest and the appearance of Conflicts of Interest shall be reported according to Board Administrative Policies #1.0.101.00 - Standards of Conduct and Conflict of Interest; and #1.0.105.00 - Reporting Conflict of Interest, Fraud, and Abuse, which were adopted by the Board of Directors on April 26, 2007.

*Conflict of Interest* – A circumstance in which a Board Member, Board employee, Contracted Provider, or Contracted Provider's employee is in a decision-making position and has a direct or indirect interest, particularly a financial interest, that influences the individual's ability to perform job duties and fulfill responsibilities.

*Appearance of a Conflict of Interest* – A circumstance in which a Board Member, Board employee, Contracted Provider, or Contracted Provider's employee's action appears to be:

- influenced by considerations of one or more of the following: gain to the person, entity, or organization for which the person has an employment interest, substantial financial interest, or other interest, whether direct or indirect (other than those consistent with the terms of the contract), or;
- motivated by design to gain improper influence over the Commission, the Agency, the Board, or the Board's Chief Elected Officials.

## Code of Ethics

The Workforce Solutions Code of Ethics is a guide for dealing with ethical matters in the workplace and in our relationship with our clients and members of the community.

- We believe in respect for the individual.
- We believe all persons are entitled to be treated with respect, compassion and dignity.
- We believe in openness and honesty in dealing with the general public, the people we serve, and our peers.
- We believe in striving for excellence.
- We believe in conducting ourselves in a way that will avoid even the appearance of favoritism, undue influence or impropriety, so as to preserve public confidence in our efforts.



**Youth Services Committee Meeting**

Bayview Tower – Administrative Office – 400 Mann Street, Suite 800  
Bayview Large Conference Room  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6023106124?pwd=LGkM5d67Dtb6LmUIVkd2iPYqMpA2DX.1&omn=85798886009>

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**Wednesday, May 06, 2026 – 3:00 pm**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order: *Dr. Leonard Rivera, Chair*
- II. TOMA Rules: *Sarahi Vasquez*
- III. Roll Call: *Sarahi Vasquez*.....5
- IV. **Announcement on Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest**  
Any Conflicts of Interest or Appearance of a Conflict of Interest with items on this agenda shall be declared at this time. Members with conflicts will refrain from voting and are asked to refrain from discussion on such items. Conflicts discovered later in the meeting shall be disclosed at that time. Note: Information on open meetings is included at the end of this agenda.
- V. **Public Comments**
- VI. **Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of the February 17, 2026 Youth Services Committee Meeting**.....6-8
- VII. **Information Only:**
  - 1. Services to Youth Update BCY 2026 (Q1 Oct.-Dec.) (Q2 Jan.-March) (Q3 April-June) (Q4 July-Sept.)
    - a. Second Quarter (Q2) Program Report: *Alba Silvas & Monica Cisneros*.....9-12
    - b. First Quarter (Q2) Performance: *Alba Silvas*.....13
  - 2. Services to Special Community Populations
    - a. Student HireAbility Navigator: *Imelda Trevino*.....14

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(cont. page 2)

b. Foster Care Youth: <i>Alba Silvas</i> .....	15
3. Program & Education Engagements	
a. Texas Internship Initiatives: <i>Alba Silvas</i> .....	16
b. Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant: <i>Alba Silvas</i> .....	17-18
c. Educator Insight Externship: <i>Alba Silvas</i> .....	19
d. Career & Education Outreach Program: <i>Luis Rodriguez</i> .....	20-21
4. Celebrating Participant Success: <i>Alba Silvas</i> .....	22

### VIII. Adjournment

**Note:** Except for expressly authorized closed sessions, meetings, discussions, and deliberations of the Board or Committees will be open to the public. Voting in all cases will be open to the public. Board members are advised that using personal communication devices to discuss Committee and Board business during the meeting may be a violation of the Texas Open Meetings Act. Such communications also may be subject to the Texas Public Information Act.

**Closed Session Notice.** PUBLIC NOTICE is given that the Board may elect to go into executive session at any time during the meeting in order to discuss matters listed on the agenda, when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. In the event the Board elects to go into executive session regarding an agenda item, the section or sections of the Open Meetings Act authorizing the executive session will be publicly announced by the presiding officer.

**Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA).** All public meetings are required to follow all parts of the Texas Open Meetings Act. Therefore, we will be holding this meeting both in-person at our **Bayview Tower – Administrative Office, Bayview Large Conference Room** and on **ZOOM**. With this format, comes some changes to what is required of board members and the public.

- The presiding member (Chair or designee) must be in-person at the meeting location, 400 Mann Street, Suite 800, Corpus Christi, Texas.
- Board members must be visible on camera in order to count toward the quorum and in order to vote.
- The public and all presenters will need to be visible while presenting information.

This hybrid meeting format will allow us to meet TOMA rules, while still ensuring the safety of those who must attend.

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**Youth Services Committee**  
**Roll Call Roster**  
**May 6, 2026**  
**(4 = Quorum)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Leonard Rivera, Chair Dr.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sandra Clement, Vice-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Michelle Flower

\_\_\_\_\_ Jenna Hoffman

\_\_\_\_\_ Michelle Lozano

\_\_\_\_\_ Liza Wisner

\_\_\_\_\_ Hector Bernal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

**MINUTES**

**Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend – Youth Services Committee**  
Bayview Tower – Administrative Office – 400 Mann Street, Suite 800  
Bayview Large Conference Room  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

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**February 12, 2026 – 3:00 pm**

**Committee Members**

**Present**

Dr. Leonard Rivera, Chair  
Dr. Sandra Clement, Vice Chair  
Jenna Hoffman  
Michelle Lozano  
Liza Wisner

**Absent**

Michelle Flowers

**Others Present**

Ken Trevino, Workforce Solutions  
Alba Silvas, Workforce Solutions  
Shileen Lee, Workforce Solutions  
Christina Gonzalez, Workforce Solutions  
Allyson Riojas, Workforce Solutions  
Kristen Bily, Workforce Solutions  
Vicki Stonum, Workforce Solutions  
Celina Leal, Workforce Solutions  
Tracy McAfee, Workforce Solutions  
Ernest Everett, Workforce Solutions  
Harvey Pina, Workforce Solutions  
Sarahi Vasquez, Workforce Solutions  
Catherine Cole, Workforce Solutions  
Imelda Munoz, Workforce Solutions

**Other Board Members Present**

Marcia Keener

I. Call to Order

Chair Rivera called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

II. TOMA Rules

Ms. Vasquez provided information on the Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) Rules after the introductions were given.

III. Roll Call

The roll call was called by Ms. Vasquez, and a quorum was present. Child Care Services Chair Marcia Keener was present.

IV. Announcement on Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Attention was called to the Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest and disclosures were requested by the chair, Randy Seitz at this time. None were made.

V. Public Comments

Due to the new TOMA Rules, there is a laptop at meeting location 400 Mann Street; Suite 800 and is noted on Zoom call that it is Public as per TOMA Rules. The laptop is available and open to the public. Mr. Trevino recognized it was Mrs. Silvas 2nd year as Chief Operating Officer.

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VI. Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of the September 10, 2025 Youth Services Committee Meeting  
Chair Rivera moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2025 Workforce Services Committee meeting. Ms. Wisner motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Keener seconded the motion and passed.

VII. Review of Committee Charter, Initiatives, and Strategic Board Goals for BCY2026

Chair Rivera presented the review of Committee Charter, Initiatives, and Strategic Board Goals for BCY2026. Dr. Rivera explained that the Youth Services Committee was responsible for monitoring and delivery of youth programs through our business career centers. Dr. Rivera reviewed Board Strategic Goals in place to work towards increasing educational and employment opportunities for the Coastal Bend region. Mr. Trevino added that it was important to know that these have been ratified over the years. There were no further comments or questions for Dr. Rivera. (included in page 7 of the February 17, 2026 packet).

Information Only:

1. Services to Youth Update BCY 2026 (Q1 Oct.-Dec.) (Q2 Jan.-March) (Q3 April-June) (Q4 July-Sept.)

a. First Quarter (Q1) Program Report:

Mrs. Cole presented information on the First Quarter Program Report, where she discussed information relating to all youth-related activities and information provided from October-December 2025. Mrs. Cole discussed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program outreach and community engagement into schools utilizing these programs, how they can be helped, along with adding education on top of training to these programs. Mrs. Cole recapped on the Rural Schools Innovation Zone partnership, as well as the WIO Youth Team community engagements during the month of October, November, and December 2025. Mrs. Cole discussed Elevate 361 collaboration in breaking barriers to employment, and the Youth Job Fair. (included in pages 8-12 of the February 17, 2026 packet).

b. First Quarter Performance

Mr. Reyna discussed First Quarter Performance enrollments for October, November, and December. Mr. Reyna explained that there is historically a slight dip in December and January before Quarter 2 and highlighted an increase in January enrollments already. Robert explained why they target for out of school youth versus in school youth, as he expressed under WIO rules and regulations, they are required to fiscally serve a proportionally higher amount of the out of school youth population. Mr. Reyna discussed primary partnerships such as Posture Youth and DFPS, and the re-engaging of those partnerships. Mr. Reyna explained that in Quarter 4, they exceeded 113% in employed and reported wages and expect to see them continue to improve. Mr. Reyna expressed that they are currently meeting their measurable skills gained performance at 96%. Dr. Clement discussed paraprofessional training, as it is certification that can be acquired without a degree. Ms. Hoffman asked Mrs. Cole how the youth was being reached, in which Mr. Reyna explained physical outreach, social media, and the mobile unit were good avenues used to reach the youth community. (included in page 13 in the February 17, 2026 packet).

2. Services to Special Community Populations

a. Student HireAbility Navigator

Mrs. Cole discussed information Services to Special Community Populations, beginning with the Student HireAbility Navigator, which included Quarter 1's National Disability Awareness Month 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, along with the YOU! Inspire Symposium and it's participating employers. (included in page 14 in the February 17, 2026 packet).

b. Foster Care Youth

Mrs. Cole discussed Services to Special Community Populations with Foster Care Youth for Quarter 1, where she explained there was a collective donation from not only the Workforce Board, but contractors such as C2 GPS, and totaled \$1,000 that they provided to the Foster Youth Transitioning Center, BCFS. Mrs. Cole expressed their great relationship with BCFS, other partnering agencies such as Foster Angels and DFPS Pal's. Mrs. Cole explained how this provided 25 resource packets for transitioning foster youth. Dr. Clement asked Mrs. Cole if there were foster students from other rural area, and if so, what that would look like. Mrs. Cole answered by explaining they utilize the same map that BCFS and DFPS look at, which goes past the Coastal Bend to include areas such as the Valley and Laredo. Mrs. Clement praised Mrs. Cisneros and Mrs. Cole for providing a warm handoff to these children throughout this process. (included in page 15 in the February 17, 2026 packet).

3. Program and Education Engagements

a. Texas Internship Initiatives

Mrs. Cole presented information on the Program and Education Engagement with Texas Internship Initiatives (TII), where she expressed this is in partnership with Education to Employment Partners (E2E). Mrs. Cole expressed for this program they had 19 enrollments and expressed school districts going into IBC's as a great way to earn funding for their districts opposed to TII that held heaviness in being able to earn funding through the program. Mrs. Cole expressed through their TII externship program, some are 6 weeks, a couple months, that are paid by the employer wages and employ them at about 20-30 hours. (included in page 16 in the February 12 2026 packet).

b. Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant

Ms. Cole presented Program and Education Engagement updates on the Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant during Quarter 1 and explained

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the transfer Virtual Reality opportunity to provide regional advising to all middle school students in the Coastal Bend area. Mrs. Cole explained that Mr. Rodriguez was deploying that too out to the school districts and noted that they want to provide school districts with a report on student's interest and where they are landing. Ms. Cole explained there is about 8 weeks' worth of curriculum that is developed for career readiness for educators, at no cost to them, to be able to track usage. (included in page 17 in the February 17 2026 packet).

c. Policy Review Schedule

Mr. Rodriguez went over the Program and Education Engagements with the Career & Education Outreach program, where he described essential skills training, resume work, and interviewing skills that take part in the program other than the VR aspect in Quarter 1. Mr. Rodriguez described working with 12 schools and 9 districts, and described new partnerships with Port Aransas, Flour Bluff, Rivera, and Ingleside ISD and their support with these programs. Mr. Rodriguez explained that 950 careers were explored this quarter 1, with the ratio being 1:0 career exposure to students, essentially 2 careers per person that they get to experience with the headset. (included in page 18-19 in the February 17 2026 packet).

4. Celebrating Participant Success

Mrs. Cole began by highlighting success story Lauren Flores, who participated in the Summer Earn and Learn (SEAL) program, and was under the Student HireAbility Navigator program of 2025, where she was placed to work with CASA of the Coastal Bend, which was her first job. Mrs. Cole described that while placed at this worksite, her manager communicated Lauren's great work ethic, and successfully completed her 5 week SEAL experience, where she began Business Administration Classes at Del Mar College in September, where she was recommended into the WIOA School Youth Program and began working with the Council of Governance (COG) as an Office Assistant. Mrs. Cole shared that they have received positive feedback from her supervisors, and express Lauren to be an asset and was offered a permanent position with the COG in December of 2025. (included in page 20 in the February 17, 2026 packet).

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Rivera called for adjournment of the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:43pm.

## INFORMATION ONLY

### VII – 1a. Services to YOUTH – Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) Program Updates

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Team Members will provide information regarding all youth related activities; information provided is for scope of January – March 2026.

### WIOA YOUTH Program:

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is designed to help job seekers access the employment, education, training, and support services needed to succeed in today's labor market, while also connecting employers with a skilled workforce. Participants in the WIOA Youth program are classified as either In-School Youth (ISY), ages 14–21, or Out-of-School Youth (OSY), ages 16–24. As directed by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), at least 75% of WIOA Youth funding must be allocated to OSY participants, and a minimum of 20% of the total WIOA Youth budget must be dedicated to providing Work Experience (WE) opportunities.

#### ○ YOU Program ISD Engagements

- **High School & Career Fairs:** During Q2, multiple visits were made to ISDs by the WIOA Youth Program team to conduct outreach and engagements to in-school youth population.

▪ <b>Mathis HS</b>	▪ <b>Rivera HS</b>
▪ <b>Taft HS</b>	▪ <b>London HS</b>
▪ <b>Alice HS</b>	▪ <b>West OSO HS</b>
▪ <b>Sinton HS</b>	▪ <b>CARE Academy</b>
▪ <b>Beeville HS</b>	▪ <b>Pettus HS</b>

#### ○ Outreach and Community Engagement

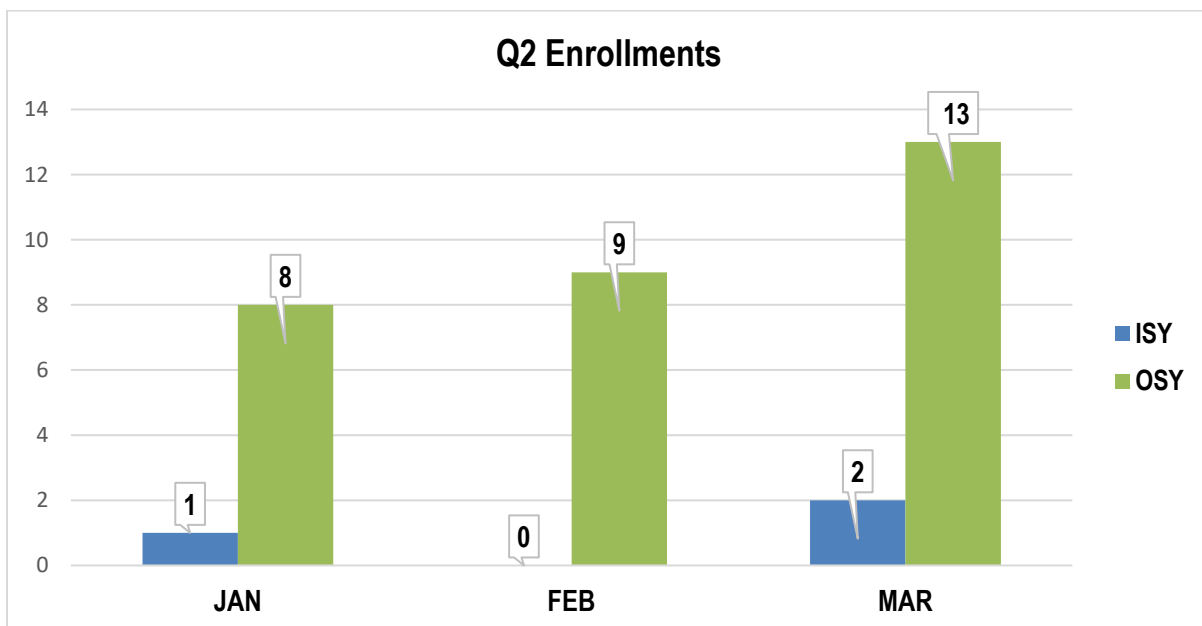
- **Healthcare Internship Fund:** WFSCB, in partnership with the Rural Schools Innovation Zone (RSIZ), was awarded \$99,438 to support 16 youth from RSIZ schools in paid healthcare internships. These internships provide hands-on experience with local healthcare employers across the southern rural Coastal Bend region, helping students explore career pathways while strengthening the region's future healthcare workforce.
  - To date, 16 youth have participated in healthcare internships throughout Christus Spohn Hospitals located in Kingsville, Alice, and Beeville.
  - These internships have been between 6-10 weeks in length with \$15 per hour wages funded through by the grant.
  - Currently, there are still participant funds to support an additional six interns. A request for an extension till the end of July 2026 has been submitted to TWC and WFSCB is currently waiting to hear of an approval. Original grant end date is May 2026.
- **January 2026:** The WIOA Youth Team provided presentations and participated in community engagements on behalf of the YOU program during the month of January.
  - Maritime Expo and Career Fair
  - Elevate 361 – weekly visits (2-3 days)

- Mobile Unit Visits (Rural Regions)
  - TAMUK Tour
  - Freedom to Dream at Del Mar College
  - Tesla Lithium Refinery Plant Tour
  - Rural Schools Innovation Zone Board Meeting
- **February 2026:** The WIOA Youth Team provided presentations and participated in community engagements on behalf of the YOU program during the month of February.
  - Elevate 361 – weekly visits (2-3 days)
  - Mobile Unit Visits (Rural Regions)
  - Mathis HS Career Fair - YOU program flyer drop-off & YOU resource table
  - Taft HS Career Fair - YOU program flyer drop-off & YOU resource table
  - West Oso HS Career Fair - YOU program flyer drop-off & YOU resource table
  - Sinton HS Career Fair - YOU program flyer drop-off & YOU resource table
  - 2026 Women in Industry - YOU program flyer drop-off & YOU resource table
  - P-16 Council Meeting
  - Goodwill – YOU program flyer drop off.
  - Rural Schools Innovation Zone Board Meeting
- **March 2026:** The WIOA Youth Team provided presentations and participated in community engagements on behalf of the YOU program during the month of March.
  - Elevate 361 – weekly visits (2-3 days)
  - Alice HS Career Fair - YOU program flyer drop-off & YOU resource table
  - Rivera HS Career Fair - YOU program flyer drop-off & YOU resource table
  - Pettus HS Career Fair - YOU program flyer drop-off & YOU resource table
  - TAMUCC/ WFSCB – Internship meeting
  - TAMUK – Ready for College & Career Conference
  - Mission Career Center – Career Advisor, Jose Campos, Hired
- **Maritime Expo and Career Fair**
  - WFSCB partnered with G&H Towing to host the third annual Maritime Expo and Career Fair on January 21 at the Ortiz Center. The event provided students from selected school districts with an opportunity to learn about the maritime program and explore how to prepare for internship opportunities while still in high school. Activities were organized into three main components: vendor networking, boat tours, and educational sessions.
  - Sessions added to this year's event:
    - Internship 101, hosted by G&H Towing, focused on preparing juniors and seniors for maritime internship opportunities. The session outlined the required documents and certifications students need to be internship-ready, including guidance on when to apply for a maritime license and other essential credentials.
    - Post-Secondary to Career Pathways, hosted by Del Mar College, Texas A&M University–Galveston, and San Jacinto College, explored a range of educational opportunities—from industry certifications to four-year degree programs—and the career paths aligned with each level of education in the maritime industry.
    - Bridging Education to Industry in Maritime, hosted by Education Service Center Region Two and Brown Water Marine, was designed for educators and school leaders interested in developing or applying for the Maritime CTE Program of Study. The session focused on aligning educational programs with industry needs and provided guidance on establishing successful maritime pathways.

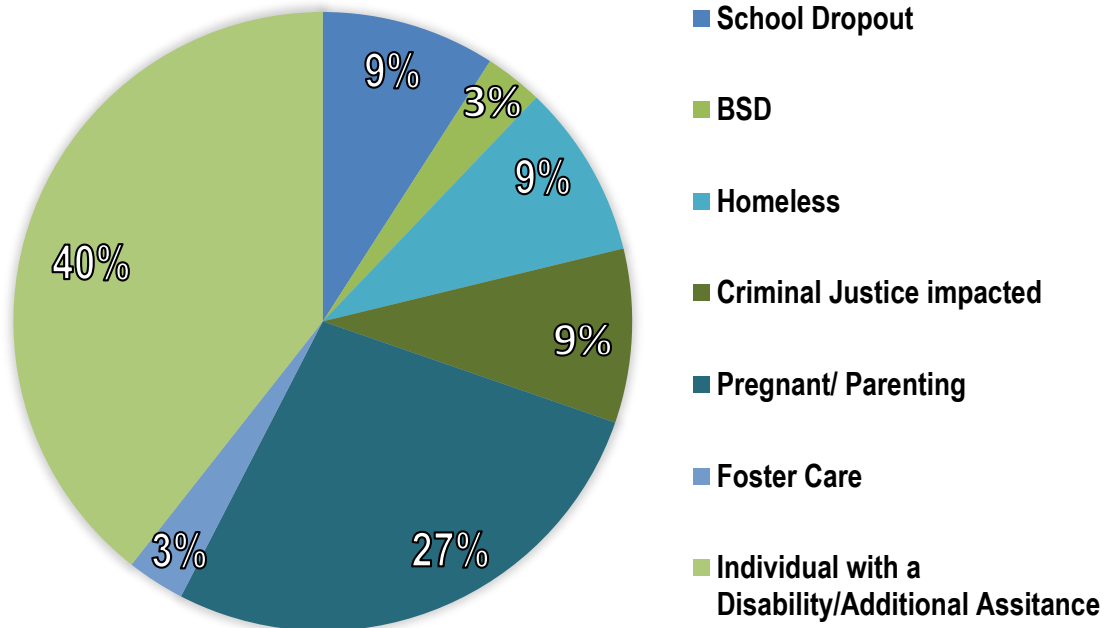
- Event Outcomes
  - Students Attended: 440
  - ISD Attended: Corpus Christi ISD, TuloSo Midway ISD, Rockport ISD, Flour Bluff ISD, Harlingen ISD
  - Employer and Training Providers Attended: 32
- **Elevate361**

Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend and Elevate 361 collaborate to break down barriers to employment for youth ages 16–24, particularly those facing challenges such as limited formal education, minimal work experience, basic skills deficiencies, housing instability, or lack of access to training. Through coordinated efforts that include job readiness workshops, career advising, and employment placement services, this partnership has become an invaluable resource for both young adults and local employers. Together, Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend and Elevate 361 are strengthening the Coastal Bend workforce by equipping young people with the tools and opportunities needed for long-term success. This collaboration has also generated meaningful social impact by expanding access to employment pathways for underserved populations who might otherwise be left behind.

  - Referrals received from Elevate 361(Q2)
    - 12 customer referrals
    - 04 customers enrolled in our YOU program
  - Top 3 Barriers for Elevate 361 customers
    - Needing a HS Diploma or GED
    - Lack of Job Skills
    - Facing homelessness
  - Top 3 Services for Elevate 361 customers
    - Intensive job search assistance
    - Work experience
    - Support services
- **Youth Enrollments**
  - 33 (3 ISY and 30 OSY) youths were enrolled into the WIOA program during January – March 2026.



## YOUTH BARRIERS: Q2



➤ **Services to WIOA Youth Customers During Q2 BCY 26**

Office Breakdown - Enrollments	
CENTER	PARTICIPANTS
Alice	02
Beeville	07
Sinton	01
Kingsville	05
Mission	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

YOU PROGRAM EXPENSES QTR 2	
ACTIVITY	AMOUNT
Training Scholarships	\$1400.00
Work Experience	\$117,482.80
Support Services	\$2805.21
Incentives	\$4100.00

TRAINING PARTICIPANTS	
PROGRAM	CUSTOMERS
9534 - Welding Program	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

## INFORMATION ONLY

### VII – 1b. Services to YOUTH – Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) Performance Updates

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all youth related activities; information provided is for scope of January – March 2026.

#### Performance Updates:

- As of April 14<sup>th</sup>, January 2026 is the latest MPR publication by Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).
- Local Workforce Boards are communicating with TWC to address data discrepancies. WFSCB has requested TWC to review on customers included in the Measurable Skills Gains denominator who do not have a corresponding MSG service recorded in their case.

<b>MPR Reporting</b>	<b>Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post-Exit</b>	<b>Employed/Enrolled Q4 Post-Exit</b>	<b>Median Earnings Q2 Post-Exit</b>	<b>Credential Rate</b>	<b>Measurable Skills Gains</b>
<b>Sept (Q4)</b>	98.87%	116.29%	121.39%	101.49%	23.55%
<b>EOY 25</b>	<b>103.37%</b>	<b>103.70%</b>	<b>133.18%</b>	<b>120.32%</b>	<b>117.53%</b>
<b>Oct (Q1)</b>	98.87%	116.29%	121.39%	101.49%	48.13%
<b>Nov (Q1)</b>	98.87%	116.29%	121.39%	101.49%	49.77%
<b>Dec (Q1)</b>	91.74%	112.84%	113.53%	121.43%	56.03%
<b>Jan (Q2)</b>	112.08%	124.03%	121.39%	140.36%	108.90%

EOY = End of Year

## INFORMATION ONLY

### VII – 2a Services to Special Community Populations

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board staff will provide information regarding all services to special community populations related activities, information provided for the scope of January – March 2026.

### **Student HireAbility Navigator (SHN):**

- It Takes a Village Conference
  - SHN attended and presented to Regional TWC-VRS staff to discuss collaboration ideas between WFSCB and TWS-VRS to better serve the Coastal Bend community.
- Texas A&M Center on Disability and Development - Texas Transition Conference Presenter
  - For nearly 20 years, the Texas Transition Conference (TTC) has brought together a statewide community of individuals and organizations dedicated to supporting youth with disabilities in their journey from school to adult life. SHN provided a presentation on best practices being utilized in the Coastal Bend with educators, transition professionals, service providers, employers, policy makers, and community partners across the state.
- Premont HS Parent Meetings
  - SHN met with parents and students individually to discuss transition services to HS seniors preparing for graduation. Discussions included career exploration, training opportunities, and workforce services available as they prepare for graduation.
- Workforce H.I.R.E.S (Helping Individuals Reach Employment Success) Inclusive Job Fair
  - WFSCB hosted its first Inclusive Job Fair at the Coastal Bend Food Bank, welcoming individuals of all abilities. The event featured 25 employers and attracted 183 motivated job seekers eager to secure employment. As a result, 84 job offers were extended, and 89 individuals left with scheduled interviews. Notably, 46% of attendees received job offers, demonstrating a strong commitment to bridging employment gaps and fostering a more inclusive workforce for all.
- Summer Earn and Learn 2026
  - Summer Earn & Learn (SEAL) – Creating Pathways to Employment for Students with Disabilities. Planning is underway for SEAL 2026, with kickoff meetings and committees already convened. The program provides eligible students with disabilities the opportunity to gain paid work experience with local employers, supported by Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services and necessary workplace accommodations to ensure success. This year, we aim to place 65 local students.
  - **NOW RECRUITING WORKSITES:** If your organization is interested in making a meaningful impact by hosting a student, please contact Imelda Trevino for more information. (Imelda.Trevino@workforcesolutionscb.org)

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Presenter – Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS) 43<sup>rd</sup> annual conference
- SEAL Signing Day!

## INFORMATION ONLY

### VII – 2b. Services to Special Community Populations – Foster Care Youth

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all services to special community populations related activities, information provided for the scope of January – March 2026.

### **Foster Youth Services:**

- WIOA Youth Enrollments
  - For Q2, WFSCB enrolled one foster youth into the WIOA Youth program.
    - During Q2, BCFS provided two foster youth referrals.
    - WIOA Youth Team has frequent communication with BCFS, DFPS PALs, and Foster Angels to assist in documents needed for eligibility and enrollment, communication with foster youth, and coordinating appointments.
  - WFSCB Youth team continue to monitor areas of improvement in eligibility and enrollment to remove barriers for foster youth participants.
  - WFSCB met twice during Q2 with the three foster youth agencies and has scheduled attendance and participation in upcoming foster youth engagement events to connect with foster youth and promote the WIOA Youth Program.

## INFORMATION ONLY

### VII – 3a. Program & Education Engagements – Texas Internship Initiatives

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all program and engagements related activities; information provided for the scope of January – March 2026.

### Texas Internship Initiatives (TII):

In partnership with Education to Employment (E2E), E2E serves as the internship program provider for the Emerging Professionals Internship Program (EPIP). This grant supports the delivery of part-time, paid internships in middle-skill STEM fields, including accounting, business management, engineering, and information technology. Eligible junior and senior high school students must successfully complete a dual-credit course to qualify for placement in an internship with a local business.

- During Q2, nine interns were participating in an internship.
- Changes in program staffing occurred during the quarter, requiring the service provider to quickly pivot to ensure that interns and the EPIP remained well supported. As a result of these internal transitions, recruitment for new interns was temporarily paused to maintain program stability and prioritize continuity of services. Current interns participating are from:
  - 1 Veterans Memorial High School (CCISD)
  - 3 Collegiate High School (CCISD)
  - 2 Moody High School (CCISD)
  - 2 Harold T. Branch Academy (CCISD)
  - 1 Taft High School (Taft ISD)
- During Q2, WFSCB received the award for the next 2026 – 2027 Texas Internship Initiative grant.
  - This grant will represent a shift from the previous EPIP model. The current EPIP framework provides internship opportunities for high school students; however, the revised model will focus on supporting recent P-TECH high school graduates in securing internships aligned with their completed CTE program of study. This approach aims to ensure that graduates who have earned industry-based certifications (IBCs) have access to meaningful employment opportunities, while partnering them with mentoring employers who may ultimately hire interns upon successful completion of their internships.

## INFORMATION ONLY

### VII – 3b. Program & Education Engagements – Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all program and engagements related activities; information provided for the scope of January – March 2026.

### Tri-Agency Regional Convener Grant:

Through the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative, the Texas Education Agency (TEA), Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) partnered to strengthen Texas's education-to-workforce pipeline. In April 2023, the Tri-Agency launched a \$12 million grant program to designate a Regional Convener in each of the state's 28 workforce development areas (WDAs). These conveners leverage existing regional infrastructure to build and coordinate education–workforce partnerships that support long-term economic growth.

- Strategic Plan Update
  - TEA provided the opportunity to allow grantees to thoughtfully revisit and strengthen their existing Strategic Plans. For Coastal Bend, this process involved refining strategic goals to better align with current priorities, developing clearer and more measurable outcomes to track progress effectively, and ensuring that all planned activities are both realistic and sustainable within the capacity of the current workforce team and available budget. This refinement process not only enhanced the overall clarity and focus of the Strategic Plan but also improved its practicality for implementation. To promote transparency and stakeholder engagement, the updated Strategic Plan will be published on the convener landing page, where it will be accessible for public viewing at a later time. The refined goals are:
    - Goal One: Increase regional advising by 20% to promote CTE pathway concentrators by 2030.
    - Goal Two: Increase regional communication frequency by 25% to drive growth in IBC attainment across programs in targeted industries by 2030.
    - Goal Three: Establish and lead regional WBL opportunities awareness by 15% to increase WBL activities by 2030.
- Collateral Development
  - Through collaboration with the Pathways Leadership Team, a crosswalk between the Coastal Bend's Target Occupations List aligned to current TEA Programs of Study was developed. This crosswalk identifies how high-demand occupations in the Coastal Bend region correspond to TEA-approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs of Study. Each occupation and program of study is organized within the TEA career clusters, providing a clear framework that helps educators and students understand which educational pathways lead to specific in-demand career opportunities in the Coastal Bend.
- Implementation of TREK
  - During Q2, CEOP began the implementation of TREK (Pilot) with six of CCISD middle schools. TREK is a student-designed tool that supports graduation planning, financial literacy

exploration, and career development. The platform enables learners to set and track short- and long-term career goals, create and save detailed career plans, and share their progress with teachers, parents, and career advisors. Data from six participating Corpus Christi ISD middle schools include:

- 419 Students participated in TREK
  - 336 Students selected a career within the program
  - 425 Financial budgets were created
- Industry and Education Summit Development
    - Preparation and coordination for the inaugural annual Industry and Education Summit have been actively underway throughout Q1 and Q2. This effort has included collaborative planning, stakeholder outreach, and the development of a comprehensive agenda designed to maximize engagement and impact. The summit is intended to bring together CTE Directors, educators, and administrators from across the Coastal Bend region, creating a space for meaningful dialogue and partnership-building. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear directly from some of the region's leading industry employers, gaining valuable insights into current workforce needs, emerging trends, and in-demand skills. In addition, the summit will foster interactive discussions that encourage alignment between education and industry, ultimately supporting stronger pathways for student success and career readiness. Sessions will include:
      - What employers are wanting from schools and students to start internships.
      - Developing Programs of Study.
      - School district collaboration with employers.
      - An overview of Labor Market Information.
    - Event will be hosted at the Education Service Center Region Two on May 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - Upcoming Events
    - Industry and Education Summit – May 6<sup>th</sup>

## INFORMATION ONLY

### VII – 3c. Educator Insight Externship<sup>2</sup> (EIE<sup>2</sup>)

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all program and engagements related activities; information provided for the scope of January – March 2026.

### Educator Insight Externship<sup>2</sup>:

Formerly known as Educator Externship, Educator Insight Externship (EIE<sup>2</sup>) is a refined, CTE-focused externship designed to strengthen alignment between classroom instruction and regional workforce demands. EIE<sup>2</sup> is structured as a 10-day intensive experience that provides CTE educators with direct, hands-on exposure to the technical skills required by high-demand industries in the Coastal Bend region. CTE educators often maintain industry-based certifications, credentials, licenses, and registrations that must remain current to support program eligibility and instructional quality. These qualifications, combined with prior industry experience, position educators to engage in advanced, skill-specific training during the externship. Participating employers can leverage this foundation to deliver targeted, technical learning experiences that go beyond introductory exposure.

Through structured collaboration with industry partners, educators gain practical insight into current technologies, evolving methodologies, and workplace expectations. This includes exposure to updated equipment, industry standards, and applied processes that reflect real-world conditions. Educators use this experience to identify specific competencies, technical skills, and professional behaviors that students must demonstrate before entering the workforce. The result is more precise curriculum alignment, improved instructional relevance, and stronger preparation of students for high-demand careers.

- Due to length of engagement for educators, the goal for educators participating in the Coastal Bend is 20 from at least five school districts.
- Externships will be scheduled during the summer, contingent on alignment between employer availability and the educator's schedule.
- Participating employers will be identified, contacted, and strategically matched based on alignment between their industry sector and the CTE educator's Program of Study..
- Deadline for pre-registering is May 20<sup>th</sup>.

For participating in the externship and completing deliverables, educators can earn a \$1300 stipend.

## INFORMATION ONLY

### VII – 3d. Program & Education Engagements – Career & Education Outreach Program

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide information regarding all program and engagement-related activities; information provided for the scope of January – March 2026.

#### Career & Educator Outreach Program (CEOP):

The Career & Education Outreach Program empowers students in grades 6–12, along with parents and educators, by providing education, support, and access to TWC resources that guide informed education and career choices. Through strategic outreach, the program builds strong partnerships with local schools and employers to advance career readiness across the Coastal Bend.

<b>JANUARY 2026 School Engagements</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>VR</b>	<b>Endorsement Program of Study</b>	<b>Essential Skills Resume Writing</b>	<b>Total Students Per School</b>
Aransas Pass HS	0	0	113	113
Banquete MS	0	65	0	65
Falfurrias HS	0	0	128	128
Rockport HS	0	0	120	120
<b>Total Per Service</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>426</b>

<b>FEBRUARY 2026 School Engagements</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>VR</b>	<b>Endorsement Program of Study</b>	<b>Essential Skills Resume Writing</b>	<b>Total Students Per School</b>
Banquete HS	0	0	36	36
Gregory Portland HS	0	0	92	92
Lexington MS	0	63	0	63
Martin MS	0	42	0	42
Premont ECHS	0	0	38	38
<b>Total Per Service</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>271</b>

<b>MARCH 2026 School Engagements</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>VR</b>	<b>Endorsement Program of Study</b>	<b>Essential Skills Resume Writing</b>	<b>Total Students Per School</b>
Baker MS	0	82	0	82
Grant MS	0	106	0	106
Hamlin MS	0	67	0	67
Premont ECHS	0	0	41	41
Tom Browne MS	0	59	0	59
<b>Total Per Service</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>355</b>

- **Outreach Activity Definitions**
  - **Virtual Reality Career Exploration (VR):** Virtual Reality career exploration utilizes immersive VR technology to let students experience simulated in-demand work environments and job tasks firsthand. IT helps students explore careers, build awareness of skills required, and make informed career decisions in a safe, engaging way.
  - **Endorsements and Program of Study Presentations:** Presentation focuses on educating students on their potential endorsements and the specific career pathways they should follow. Utilizing TWC tools and resources such as Texas Reality Check, Texas Career Check, and Career Coach, students gain access to valuable career information. The greatest benefit is an inside look at the high-paying, in-demand careers in the Coastal Bend.
  - **Essential Skills & Resume Writing Workshops:** Essential skills training is a highly requested workshop, with educators frequently seeking this topic for their students. The training covers resume writing, interviewing techniques, financial literacy, communication and active listening, time management, critical thinking, and related skills.
- **Activities & Events**
  - Port Aransas High School, January 21, 2026
    - CEOP met with the Port Aransas Site-Based Decision-Making Committee to discuss Labor Market Information focused on college and career alignment. CEOP prepared a presentation regarding a regional comparison report, highest ranking occupations in the Coastal Bend, job posting analysis, and economic overview.
  - Flour Bluff ISD (Hornet Aviation Rollout Ceremony) February 12, 2026
    - CEOP attended the ceremony commemorating the completion of a two-seat aircraft built by FBISD students through Hornet Aviation Program.
  - Texas A&M University Corpus Christi (TASS Committee) February 20, 2026
    - CEOP was requested to speak on the importance for students to learn and embrace Financial Literacy. Endorsing a film inspired by math in our everyday lives (Counted Out).

#### **Activity by the Numbers**

- Student Exposure and Engagements from 2022 to Current
  - Students Exposed 31,937 (Q1 - 1,562)
  - Students Engagements 17,775(Q1 -1,149)
- Virtual Reality: from 2022 to Current
  - Students in VR – 7,771 (Q1 - 337)
  - Careers Stared and Explored – 14,548 (Q1 - 950)
  - Ratio of students to careers explored – 1.911 (Q1 - 1.915)

## **INFORMATION ONLY**

### VIII – 4. Celebrating Success

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Board Professionals will provide an overview of three successful work experiences completed by WIOA Youth participants—Maria Vidrio, Nathan Benavides, and Madalyn Recio. Each WIOA Youth participant demonstrated strong performance throughout their placements. That resulted in all three participants successfully transitioning from work experiences into permanent employment with their respective host worksites.

## WFSCB Glossary of Terms

Program Title	Acronym	Program Description
Able-bodied Adult Without Dependents	ABAWD	An individual 18 yrs.+, but under the age of 50, without dependents. SNAP-ABAWD recipients are referred by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).
Board Contract Year	BCY	Board Contract Year (runs from Oct. 1 - Sept. 30)
Career & Education Outreach Program	CEOP	Provides career information to students at public middle and high schools, grades six through twelve, to direct students towards high-growth/high-demand occupations. Students receive in-depth information and directions on career choices as well as access to workforce resources.
Dislocated Worker	DW	An individual who has been terminated or laid off from employment is not eligible for unemployment benefits due to insufficient earnings and is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.
Department of Labor	DOL	United States Department of Labor
Educator Externship	EDEX	Informs teachers of the skill sets needed for in-demand jobs, and allows the teachers to inform and guide students toward employment in industries that match their skill sets.
Employment Services (Wagner-Peyser)	ES	Services for employers and job seekers to ensure employers have access to qualified workers. Provides job matching and recruitment services to employers and job seekers.
Eligible Training Provider	ETP	Training providers certified by the Texas Workforce Commission to provide WIOA-funded training programs.
Eligible Training Program List	ETPL	A comprehensive list of training programs approved for WIOA-funded training using Individual Training Accounts.
Fiscal Year	FY	The fiscal year is the accounting period of the federal government. It begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of the next calendar year.
Individual Training Accounts	ITA	An account established for eligible WIOA customers for training in an array of state-approved training programs. ITAs may be used only for programs included on the statewide ETPL.
Local Workforce Development Board	LWDB	Local workforce development board established in accordance with WIA Section 117, for the purpose of policy planning for a local area and has the responsibility to ensure that the workforce needs of employers and job seekers in the geographic area governed by the local unit of government are met.
Monthly Performance Report	MPR	Performance accountability indicators used to assess the effectiveness of states and local workforce systems to achieve positive outcomes for individuals served by the six core workforce programs.
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program	MSFW	A nationally directed program created by Congress in response to the chronic seasonal unemployment and underemployment experienced by migrant and seasonal farmworkers (MSFW). Provides funding to help migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families achieve economic self-sufficiency.
National Dislocated Worker	NDW	A grant awarded to areas affected by major disaster or national catastrophe to assist in disaster relief employment and assist the substantial number of workers who were forced to relocate from an area in which a disaster has been declared.
On-the-Job Training	OJT	One-on-one training located at the job site for participants who already have some job-related skills. By participating in training as an employee, the participant acquires new skills and knowledge and receives the same wages and benefits as current employees in the same or similar position.
Program Year	PY	Program Year (for example, Program Year 2022: PY'22; –period varies for state and federal years)
Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment	RESEA	A federal grant program designed to allow states to provide intensive reemployment assistance to individuals who are receiving unemployment benefits and are determined likely to exhaust their benefits before becoming reemployed.
Rapid Response	RR	Provides immediate on-site assistance to workers who have job losses due to businesses closure or worker reduction. Designed to transition workers to their next employment as soon as possible.

## WFSCB Glossary of Terms

Program Title	Acronym	Program Description
Summer Earn and Learn	SEAL	A summer program that offers basic work-based learning and training services for students with disabilities such as, pre-employment work readiness training and preparation for the work experience placement; work experience to help gain familiarity with the workplace environment and develop transferable job skills; and paid compensation for time worked on the job.
Student HireAbility Navigator	SHAN	Student HireAbility Navigator's role is to expand and improve access to employment and training services and to increase employment opportunities for students with disabilities by creating strong partnerships between vocational rehabilitation (VR) Workforce Solutions offices, independent school districts (ISDs), community organizations, employers.
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment & Training	SNAP E&T	Designed to assist SNAP recipients in obtaining employment through participation in allowable job search, training, education, or workforce activities that promote long-term self-sufficiency. SNAP recipients are referred by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).
Trade Adjustment Assistance	TAA	A federally funded program, with no costs to employers, who helps workers who are adversely affected by foreign import or job shifts to a foreign country.
Texas Education Agency	TEA	The branch of government in Texas responsible for public education. TEA is responsible for the oversight of public primary and secondary education in the state of Texas.
Texas Internship Initiative	TII	Provides part-time paid internships in Middle-Skill areas of accounting, business, construction management, engineering, healthcare, and information technology. Participating senior high school students must pass a dual-credit course to be placed in an internship with a local business. This grant is in partnership with Education to Employment (E2E) for the Coastal Bend.
Texas Industry Partnership Program	TIP	Supports collaborations between local workforce development boards and industry partners through the leveraging of matching contributions of cash or qualifying expenditures for occupational job training. Match funds must support certain WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) activities and focus on eight designated industry clusters.
Texas Veterans Commission	TVC	A state agency that assists veterans, their families, and survivors through services provided by federal, state, local government, and private organizations.
Texas Veterans Leadership Program	TVLP	A non-profit agency that provides services to veterans to help find employment and achieve successful transitions back into civilian life.
The Workforce Information System of Texas	TWIST	TWIST is a centralized point of reporting intake and case management for customers. Intake information is submitted just once for multiple employment and training programs and can be retrieved statewide. TWIST also allows staff to query and retrieve information from the legacy systems – Employment Services, Unemployment Insurance, SNAP E&T, TANF, Supplemental Security Income, and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	VRS	A federal program that helps individuals with physical or mental disabilities get and/or keep a job.
Work Experience	WE	A work-based learning opportunity in which program-eligible customers learn both essential and technical skills for long-term employment. Businesses are referred to as "work experience sites." Intended to be short-term (12 or fewer weeks) and part-time work experience can be a volunteer, internship, or temporary short-term paid-work setting.
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act	WIOA	Helps job seekers and workers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market; and matches employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy.
Work In Texas	WIT	A comprehensive online job search resource and matching system developed and maintained by TWC. It provides recruiting assistance to Texas employers and job search assistance to any individual seeking work in Texas.
Workforce Opportunity Tax Credit	WOTC	A federal tax credit that the government provides to private-sector businesses for hiring individuals from nine target groups that have historically faced significant barriers to employment.