

# Texas Workforce Commission Office of Employer Initiatives



## How can the Texas Workforce Commission Assist YOU?

Programs and Tools to Aid Small Businesses  
Child Care Programs and their Employees  
during the Current Turbulent Period

# Overview

- ▶ Unemployment Assistance and Insurance
- ▶ Paid leave for employees due to COVID-19
- ▶ Work In Texas job matching services
- ▶ Skills for Small Business Grant
- ▶ Small Business Administration (SBA) Funding Programs

# Unemployment Assistance

- ▶ **Shared Work Program**: provides Texas employers with an alternative to layoffs. TWC developed this voluntary program to help Texas employers and employees withstand a slowdown in business. Shared Work allows employers to:
  - ▶ Supplement their employees' wages lost because of reduced work hours with partial unemployment benefits
  - ▶ Reduce normal weekly work hours for employees in an affected unit by at least 10 percent but not more than 40 percent; the reduction must affect at least 10 percent of the employees in that unit
  - ▶ Employees who qualify will receive both wages and Shared Work unemployment benefits
  - ▶ For more information, please refer to the link below:  
<https://www.twc.texas.gov/businesses/shared-work>
- ▶ **Mass unemployment claims**: streamlines the unemployment benefit claims process for employers faced with either temporary or permanent layoffs. During COVID – 19 the requirement to submit Mass Claims Request at least five days prior to the planned layoff has been waived.
  - ▶ For more information, please visit: <https://twc.texas.gov/businesses/mass-claims-unemployment-benefits>

# Unemployment and CARES ACT



If you are not currently working, teleworking or on paid leave, you may be eligible for...

	REGULAR UNEMPLOYMENT	PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE
ADDITIONAL \$600 PER WEEK*	✓	✓	✓
NUMBER OF WEEKS	Up to 26	Up to 13	Up to 39
WHO IS ELIGIBLE	Past Wages + Qualifying Separation	Exhausted Regular Unemployment on or After 7/1/19	Self-Employed Contract workers Monetary Ineligible for Regular
FILL OUR UNEMPLOYMENT APPLICATION	✓	✓	✓
APPLIES TO COVID-19	✓	✓	✓
EXPIRES	Ongoing State Program	Last Payment 12/26/20	Last Payment 12/26/20
HOW TO APPLY	UI.TexasWorkforce.org	UI.TexasWorkforce.org	UI.TexasWorkforce.org

\*Available until 7/31/20

For more information: <http://ui.texasworkforce.org/>

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# Paid Leave for Employees

If you have fewer than 500 employees, you are required\* to provide up to 80 hours of paid sick leave to any employee who needs to take leave from work for reasons related to COVID-19. The employee qualifies if he or she:

- is subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19;
- has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID-19;
- is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is seeking a medical diagnosis;
- is caring for an individual subject to an order described in (1) or self-quarantine as described in (2);
- is caring for a child whose school or place of care is closed (or child care provider is unavailable) for reasons related to COVID-19; or
- is experiencing any other substantially-similar condition specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretaries of Labor and Treasury.

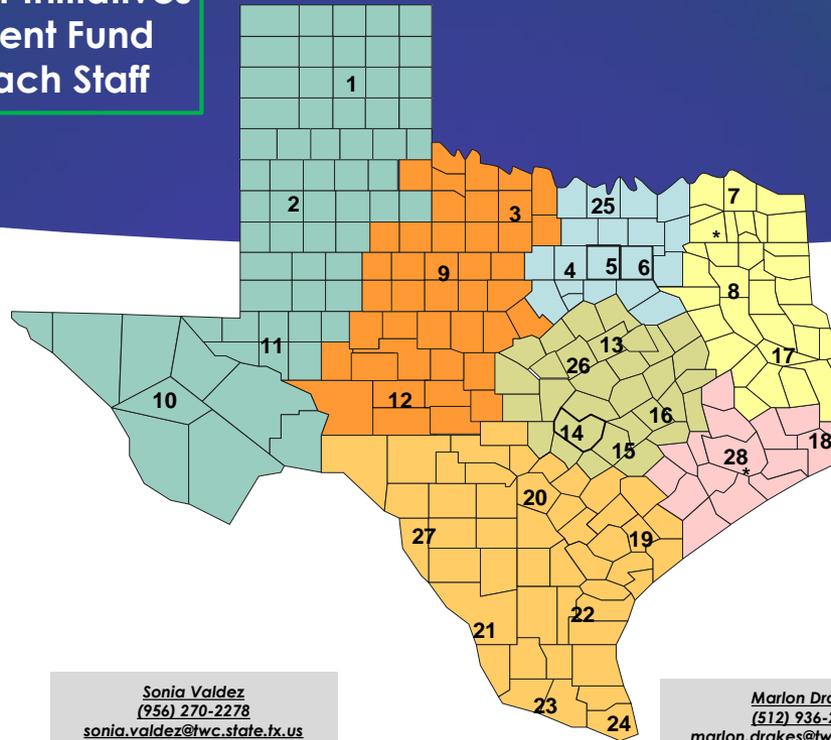
*\*Small businesses with fewer than 50 employees may qualify for exemption from the requirement to provide leave due to school closings or child care unavailability.*



- ▶ **WorkInTexas.com** is an online application that offers employers and job seekers immediate and continuous access to job matching services.
- ▶ Your local Workforce Solutions office is open and available to help.
- ▶ Instructions for how to log in as a child care provider or for out-of-work child care teachers can be found here:

<https://www.twc.texas.gov/news/covid-19-resources-child-care>

# Office of Employer Initiatives Skills Development Fund Regional Outreach Staff



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- 1 Panhandle**  
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Clarendon College  
Frank Phillips College
- 2 South Plains**  
South Plains College
- 10 Borderplex**  
El Paso Community College District
- 11 Permian Basin**  
Midland College  
Odessa College  
Howard College - Big Spring

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- 4 North Central TX**  
Collin College  
Weatherford College  
Navarro College  
TSTC-North Texas (Marlon)
- 5 Tarrant County**  
Tarrant County College
- 6 Greater Dallas**  
DCCCD-District  
Brookhaven College  
Cedar Valley College  
Eastfield College  
El Centro College  
Mountain View College  
North Lake College  
Richland College
- 25 Texoma**  
Grayson College  
North Central Texas College

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- 7 North East TX**  
Northeast Texas CC  
Paris Jr. College  
Texarkana College
- 8 East Texas**  
Trinity Valley CC  
Kilgore College  
Tyler Junior College  
TSTC - Marshall  
Panola College
- 17 Deep East TX**  
Angelina College

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- 3 North Texas**  
Vernon College
- 9 West Central TX**  
Cisco Junior College  
Ranger College  
TSTC-West TX  
Western TX College
- 12 Concho Valley**  
Howard College - San Angelo
- 19 Golden Crescent**  
Victoria College

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- 20 Alamo**  
Alamo Colleges
- 21 South Texas**  
Laredo Community College
- 22 Coastal Bend**  
Coastal Bend College  
Del Mar College
- 23 Lower Rio Grande**  
South Texas College
- 24 Cameron County**  
Texas Southmost College  
TSTC-Harlingen
- 27 Middle Rio Grande**  
Southwest TX Junior College

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- 13 Heart of TX**  
Hill College  
McLennan Community College  
TSTC-Waco
- 14 Capital Area**
- 15 Rural Capital Area**  
Austin Community College  
TSTC-Williamson County
- 16 Brazos Valley**  
Blinn College  
Texas A&M Engineering  
Extension Service (TEEX)
- 26 Central TX (Seth)**  
Central Texas College  
Temple College

**Kristina DeWitty**  
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- 18 South East TX**  
Lamar Institute of Tech.  
Lamar ST College-Orange  
Lamar ST College-Port Arthur
- 28 Gulf Coast**  
Brazosport College  
College of the Mainland  
Galveston College  
Lee College  
San Jacinto College District  
Alvin Community College  
Wharton County Jr. College  
Houston CC System  
Lone Star College System  
TSTC-Fort Bend (Marlon)

# Skills for Small Business Grant

- Targets private for profit businesses that employs at least 1 & not more than 99.
- The program pays tuition & fees up to \$1,800 for new employees.
- Up To \$900 for existing employees, per 12-month period
- Eligible employees must be full-time, W-2
- Training providers include public community or technical colleges, or Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)

# SSB Contact Information

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**Program Manager**

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**[texasworkforce.org/skillsforsmallbusiness](https://texasworkforce.org/skillsforsmallbusiness)**

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# Paycheck Protection Program

**This program offers loans of up to \$10 million for payroll, mortgage, rent, utilities, etc.**

- ▶ PPP Loan Period - February 15, 2020 to June 30, 2020
- ▶ Business in operation as of February 15, 2020
- ▶ Business must have been harmed by COVID-19 between February 15 through June 30, 2020
- ▶ Cash Flow Protection during emergency through 100 % federally guarantee loans to employers
- ▶ If payroll maintained during emergency loans will be forgiven

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# How to Apply for PPP

- ▶ Step 1: Please use the following link to find an approved vendor: <https://www.sba.gov/paycheckprotection/find>
- ▶ Step 2: Find the application here: <https://www.sba.gov/document/sba-form--paycheck-protection-program-borrower-application-form>
- ▶ Use the following link to find your local SBA office: <https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/?type=SBA%20District%20Office&pageNumber=1>

# Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)

- ▶ Up to \$2 million in assistance and can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing.
- ▶ Emergency advance up to \$10,000 harmed by COVID within 3-days of applying for EIDL (application must be submitted before a business can request the advance).
- ▶ The advance does not need to be repaid under any circumstances.
- ▶ May be used to keep employees on the payroll, sick leave, production cost due to supply-chain disruptions.
- ▶ Also, pay business obligations, including debt, rent and mortgage payments
- ▶ For more information, please visit: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>

# Small Business Debt Relief Fund

- ▶ Immediate relief to small businesses with non-disaster SBA Loans
- ▶ SBA cover loan payments on 7(a), 504, and Microloans
- ▶ Debt relief available to new borrowers who take out loans within six months of President signing the bill in to law.
- ▶ For more information, please visit: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/sba-debt-relief>

# Small Business Tax Provisions

- ▶ Provision would provide a refundable payroll tax credit for 50 percent of wages paid by eligible employers to certain employees during the COVID-19 crisis.
- ▶ Available to employers, including non-profits, whose operation have been fully or partially suspended as a result of a government order limiting commerce, travel or group meetings.
- ▶ Also provided to employers who have experienced a greater than 50 percent reduction in quarterly receipts, measured on a year-over-year basis.
- ▶ Wages of employees who are furloughed or face reduced hours as a result of their employer's closure or economic hardship are eligible for the credit.
- ▶ For employers with 100 or fewer full-time employees, all employee wages and compensation, health benefits, for the first \$10,000 in wages and compensation.

# Counseling and Training

- ▶ Many business owners need a business counselor to help guide through uncertain times
- ▶ Turn to your local Small Business Development Center (SBDC) for support with counseling and up-to-date information and resources related to COVID-19
- ▶ Other resource partners include: Women's Business Centers (WBC), Minority Business Development Agency's Business Centers (MBDCs), and SCORE
- ▶ For assistance finding your local SBDC office, please visit: [https://sbdctexas.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/TXSBDC\\_Directory\\_CompressedWeb.pdf](https://sbdctexas.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/TXSBDC_Directory_CompressedWeb.pdf)

# Need More Information?

**Commissioner Aaron Demerson, Commissioner Representing Employers**

The Employer Commissioner has developed and is maintaining FAQs and other information located at:

<https://twc.texas.gov/files/agency/faq-texas-employers-twc.docx>

**Hotline to his office for any questions you may have:**

**1-800-832-9394**

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# Stay Up-to-Date!

Information regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing so make sure to get the most up-to-date information at the following helpful TWC links:

<https://twc.texas.gov/news/covid-19-resources-employers>

**Facebook:** @Texasworkforcecommission

**Twitter:** @Txworkforce

**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/texas-workforce-commission/>

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