

March 2021 Seasonally Adjusted Labor Market Data Audio Text

Commissioner Alvarez

- Good morning Texas.
- Hello everyone. I am **Julian Alvarez**, the **Commissioner Representing Labor** for the Texas Workforce Commission.
- While the pandemic created certain challenges to businesses across Texas, the Workforce Commission **is interested in solutions** and helping companies adapt and transition back—in addition to helping our job seekers. **Right now, there is a need for upskilling and training** and here at TWC we have specific grants for small businesses that can help you as an employer (and help job seekers and Texans across the state).
- **More about that in a moment and how you and your community can benefit** with up to **\$1800 for tuition** for **companies with less than 100 employees**. First, let's listen to the labor market highlights for March 2021.

Voice Over

- In March, the seasonally adjusted Texas unemployment rate held steady at 6.9 percent.
- Texas added 106,600 seasonally adjusted private sector positions over the month.
- Leading job growth in March was the leisure and hospitality industry, which added 23,100 jobs, followed by construction, which added 19,100 jobs, and professional and business services, which added 14,800 jobs.

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- As we all know, **nothing could be more important than investing in our employees**. I want to say that I am thankful for the hard work of Texans that continue to make this state a top place to live and work.

- The Texas Workforce Commission remains determined to help **all Texans upskill, find employment or find new careers** through innovative skill enhancement programs that will benefit all our communities.
- Through the **Skills for Small Business Grant**, employers with **less than 100 employees** can receive training offered by their local community or technical college. TWC processes the applications and works with the college to fund the specific courses selected by businesses.
- It's a program that is **very easy** for businesses to access and we want to ensure **you and your community can benefit**.
- For more information, please email Skillsforsmallbusiness@twc.texas.gov directly.
- Also, to all those folks who are **currently unemployed and still searching for work**, I'd like to share with you a discussion I had recently with our own TWC HR Director, Jerry White on what we can do to empower ourselves further in our job search even during difficult times. And watching this video **does count as a work search activity**. You can view the video on TWC's YouTube Page, and you can also find the video on TWC's website using the link below.
- As always, **please visit our website** to view our host of programs designed to help employers and job seekers across this great state of ours.
- Thank you and have a great day.