

CHAPTER 804. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) GRANT PROGRAM

PROPOSED RULES TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE *TEXAS REGISTER*. THIS DOCUMENT WILL HAVE NO SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES BUT IS SUBJECT TO FORMATTING CHANGES AS REQUIRED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

ON **APRIL 14, 2026**, THE TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION PROPOSED THE RULES BELOW WITH PREAMBLE TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE TEXAS REGISTER.

Estimated Publication Date of the Proposal in the *Texas Register*: May 1, 2026

Estimated End of Comment Period: June 1, 2026

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) proposes amendments to the following sections of Chapter 804, relating to the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program:

Subchapter A. Definitions, §804.1

Subchapter B. Advisory Board Composition, Meeting Guidelines, §804.12 and §804.13

Subchapter C. Grant Program, §804.21 and §804.24

Subchapter D. Grants to Educational Institutions for Career and Technical Education Programs, §804.41

TWC proposes the following new section to Chapter 804, relating to the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program:

Subchapter B. Advisory Board Composition, Meeting Guidelines, §804.14

PART I. PURPOSE, BACKGROUND, AND AUTHORITY

The purpose of the proposed Chapter 804 rule change is to implement Senate Bill 1728 (SB 1728), enacted by the 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, by including the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments as eligible applicants for the Jobs and Education for Texans grant program.

The proposed rule change also adds a new section to reference a concurrent proposed new rule in 40 TAC Chapter 800, Subchapter E establishing an abolishment date for the JET Advisory Council.

PART II. EXPLANATION OF INDIVIDUAL PROVISIONS

(Note: Minor editorial changes are made that do not change the meaning of the rules and, therefore, are not discussed in the Explanation of Individual Provisions.)

SUBCHAPTER A. DEFINITIONS

TWC proposes the following amendments to Subchapter A:

§804.1. Definitions

Section 804.1 is amended to add definitions for the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile

boards, and juvenile probation departments.

SUBCHAPTER B. ADVISORY BOARD COMPOSITION, MEETING GUIDELINES

TWC proposes the following amendments to Subchapter B:

The subchapter's title is changed to "Subchapter B. Advisory Board's General Provisions."

§804.12. Meetings Required

Section 804.12 is amended to add the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments as entities from which the advisory board may receive and review applications.

§804.13. General Advisory Board Responsibilities

Section 804.13 is amended to add the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments as entities that the advisory board shall provide advice to and recommend the manner in which they apply for JET grants.

§804.14. Duration of Advisory Board

New §804.14 is added to provide a reference to 40 TAC Chapter 800, Subchapter E, which establishes an abolishment date for the JET Advisory Board, as allowed under Texas Government Code, §2110.008.

SUBCHAPTER C. GRANT PROGRAM

TWC proposes the following amendments to Subchapter C:

§804.21. General Statement of Purpose

Section 804.21 is amended to add the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments as eligible entities to apply for JET grants.

§804.24. Reporting Requirements

Section 804.24 is amended to include the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments as entities that must comply with all reporting requirements should they receive a grant under Chapter 804.

SUBCHAPTER D. GRANTS TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

TWC proposes the following amendments to Subchapter D:

§804.41. Grants for Career and Technical Education Programs

Section 804.41 is amended to include the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments as entities under Chapter 804, Subchapter D.

PART III. IMPACT STATEMENTS

Chris Nelson, Chief Financial Officer, has determined that for each year of the first five years the rules will be in effect, the following statements will apply:

There are no additional estimated costs to the state and to local governments expected as a result of enforcing or administering the rules.

There are no estimated cost reductions to the state and to local governments as a result of enforcing or administering the rules.

There are no estimated losses or increases in revenue to the state or to local governments as a result of enforcing or administering the rules.

There are no foreseeable implications relating to costs or revenue of the state or local governments as a result of enforcing or administering the rules.

There are no anticipated economic costs to individuals required to comply with the rules.

There is no anticipated adverse economic impact on small businesses, microbusinesses, or rural communities as a result of enforcing or administering the rules.

Based on the analyses required by Texas Government Code, §2001.024, TWC has determined that the requirement to repeal or amend a rule, as required by Texas Government Code, §2001.0045, does not apply to this rulemaking.

Takings Impact Assessment

Under Texas Government Code, §2007.002(5), "taking" means a governmental action that affects private real property, in whole or in part or temporarily or permanently, in a manner that requires the governmental entity to compensate the private real property owner as provided by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the US Constitution or the Texas Constitution, §17 or §19, Article I, or restricts or limits the owner's right to the property that would otherwise exist in the absence of the governmental action, and is the producing cause of a reduction of at least 25 percent in the market value of the affected private real property, determined by comparing the market value of the property as if the governmental action is not in effect and the market value of the property determined as if the governmental action is in effect. TWC completed a Takings Impact Assessment for the proposed rulemaking action under Texas Government Code, §2007.043. The primary purpose of this proposed rulemaking action, as discussed elsewhere in this preamble, is to implement SB 1728 by adding the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments as eligible applicants for the JET grant program.

The proposed rulemaking action will not create any additional burden on private real property or affect private real property in a manner that would require compensation to private real property owners under the US Constitution or the Texas Constitution. The proposal also will not affect private real property in a manner that restricts or limits an owner's right to the property that would otherwise exist in the absence of the governmental action. Therefore, the proposed rulemaking will not cause a taking under Texas Government Code, Chapter 2007.

Government Growth Impact Statement

TWC has determined that during the first five years the rules will be in effect, they:

- will not create or eliminate a government program;
- will not require the creation or elimination of employee positions;
- will not require an increase or decrease in future legislative appropriations to TWC;
- will not require an increase or decrease in fees paid to TWC;
- will not create a new regulation;
- will not expand, limit, or eliminate an existing regulation;
- will not change the number of individuals subject to the rules; and
- will not positively or adversely affect the state's economy.

Economic Impact Statement and Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

TWC has determined that the rules will not have an adverse economic impact on small businesses or rural communities, as the proposed rules place no requirements on small businesses or rural communities.

Mariana Vega, Director, Labor Market Information, has determined that there is not a significant negative impact upon employment conditions in the state as a result of the rules.

Mary York, Director, Workforce Development Division, has determined that for each year of the first five years the rules are in effect, the public benefit anticipated as a result of enforcing the proposed rules will be to expand the pool of eligible applicants for the Jobs and Education for Texans grant program.

TWC hereby certifies that the proposal has been reviewed by legal counsel and found to be within TWC's legal authority to adopt.

PART IV. REQUEST FOR IMPACT INFORMATION

TWC requests, from any person required to comply with the proposed rule or any other interested person, information related to the cost, benefit, or effect of the proposed rule, including any applicable data, research, or analysis. Please submit the requested information to TWCPolicyComments@twc.texas.gov no later than June 1, 2026.

PART V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments on the proposed rules may be submitted to TWCPolicyComments@twc.texas.gov and must be received no later than June 1, 2026.

PART VI. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The rules are proposed under the authority of:

- Texas Education Code, §134.008, which requires TWC to adopt rules for the administration of the JET grant program.
- Texas Labor Code, §301.0015(6) and §302.002(d), which provide TWC with the authority to adopt, amend, or repeal such rules as it deems necessary for the effective administration of TWC services and activities.

The proposed rules relate to Texas Education Code, Chapter 134.

CHAPTER 804. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) GRANT PROGRAM

SUBCHAPTER A. DEFINITIONS

§804.1. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

- (1) Act--Texas Education Code, Chapter 134, Jobs and Education for Texans Grant Program.
- (2) Advisory board--The advisory board of education and workforce stakeholders created pursuant to the Act.
- (3) Career and technical education--Organized educational activities that offer a sequence of courses that:
 - (A) provides individuals with coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in high-demand occupations or emerging industries;
 - (B) includes competency-based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills, and occupation-specific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of an industry, including entrepreneurship, of an individual; or
 - (C) provides a license, a certificate, or a postsecondary degree.
- (4) Certificate or degree completion--Any grouping of workforce or technical courses in sequential order that, when satisfactorily completed by a student, will entitle the student to a Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board--approved certificate or associate degree from a public technical institute, public junior college, or public state college.
- (5) Developmental education--Structured courses, tutorials, laboratories, or other proven instructional efforts that successfully prepare students for college level (and therefore work-ready) courses as measured by passing the state-required college entrance exam (or meeting the Texas Success Initiative requirements).
- (6) Emerging industry--A growing, evolving, or developing industry based on new technological products or concepts.
- (7) High-demand occupation--A job, profession, skill, or trade for which

employers within the state of Texas generally, or within particular regions or cities of the state, have or will have a substantial need. In determining whether there is or will be a substantial need for a particular job, profession, trade, or skill, the Agency may consider occupations identified by the 28 Local Workforce Development Boards (Board-Area Target Occupations Lists) and/or the Agency's labor market projections.

- (8) JET--The Jobs and Education for Texans Grant Program.
- (9) [Juvenile board--An entity as defined by Texas Human Resources Code, §201.001, and governed by Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 152, that oversees juvenile probation services at the county level.](#)
- (10) [Juvenile probation department--A county-level department, established and governed by a local juvenile board, that provides probation supervision and services to youth, pursuant to Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 152.](#)
- (11)(9) Open-enrollment charter school--A Texas public school operated by a charter holder under an open-enrollment charter granted pursuant to Texas Education Code, §12.101.
- (12)(10) Public junior college--Any junior college certified by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in accordance with Texas Education Code, §61.003.
- (13)(11) Public state college--Lamar State College--Orange, Lamar State College--Port Arthur, or Lamar Institute of Technology, in accordance with Texas Education Code, §61.003.
- (14)(12) Public technical institute--The Lamar Institute of Technology or the Texas State Technical College System, in accordance with Texas Education Code, §61.003.
- (15)(13) School district--An independent school district or the Windham School District.
- (16) [Texas Juvenile Justice Department--The state's juvenile corrections agency, which supervises juveniles committed to the state's care and custody and juveniles on probation, as established by Senate Bill 653, 82nd Texas Legislature, 2011, and defined in Texas Human Resources Code, Chapter 201.](#)

Subchapter B. [ADVISORY BOARD'S GENERAL PROVISIONS](#)~~ADVISORY BOARD COMPOSITION, MEETING GUIDELINES~~

§804.12. Meetings Required.

- (a) The advisory board is required to meet at least once each quarter, or as needed, to review received applications and recommend awarding grants under this chapter to public junior colleges, public technical institutes, public state colleges, open-enrollment charter schools, ~~and~~ school districts, [the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments](#).
- (b) Meetings shall be subject to the requirements of the Open Meetings Act.

§804.13. General Advisory Board Responsibilities.

The advisory board shall provide advice and recommend:

- (1) the manner in which public junior colleges, public technical institutes, public state colleges, open-enrollment charter schools, ~~and~~ school districts, [the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments](#) apply for JET grants; and
- (2) the JET grants to be awarded by the Agency.

§804.14. Duration of Advisory Board.

[The advisory board is subject to the advisory committee abolishment provisions set forth under Texas Government Code, §2110.008. As allowed by the statute, the Commission has, by rule, under Chapter 800, Subchapter E of this title, designated a date on which the advisory board will automatically be abolished unless the Commission amends the rule to provide for a different abolishment date.](#)

SUBCHAPTER C. GRANT PROGRAM

§804.21. General Statement of Purpose.

In accordance with the Act, the Agency established JET, which it administers pursuant to the Act and this chapter to award grants from the JET fund for the development of career and technical education programs at public junior colleges, public technical institutes, public state colleges, open-enrollment charter schools, ~~and~~ school districts, [the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments](#) that meet the requirements of Texas Education Code, §134.006 and §134.007.

§804.24. Reporting Requirements.

A public junior college, public technical institute, public state college, open-enrollment charter school, ~~or~~ school district, [the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments](#) receiving a grant under this chapter must comply with all reporting requirements of the contract in the frequency and format determined by the Agency in order to maintain eligibility for grant payments. Failure to comply with the reporting requirements may result in termination of the grant award and the entity being

ineligible for future grants under this chapter.

SUBCHAPTER D. GRANTS TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

§804.41. Grants for Career and Technical Education Programs.

- (a) This subchapter is applicable to JET awards to public junior colleges, public technical institutes, public state colleges, open-enrollment charter schools, ~~and~~ school districts, [the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments](#) for the development of career and technical education programs that meet the requirements of Texas Education Code, §134.006 and §134.007.
- (b) A grant received under this subchapter may be used only to:
 - (1) support courses or programs that prepare students for career employment in occupations that are identified by local businesses as being in high demand;
 - (2) finance the initial costs of career and technical education courses or program development, including the costs of purchasing equipment, and other expenses associated with the development of an appropriate course; and
 - (3) finance a career and technical education course or program that leads to a license, certificate, or postsecondary degree.
- (c) In awarding a grant under this subchapter, the Agency shall primarily consider the potential economic returns to the state from the development of the career and technical education course or program. The Agency may also consider whether the course or program:
 - (1) is part of a new, emerging industry or high-demand occupation;
 - (2) offers new or expanded dual-credit career and technical educational opportunities in public high schools;
 - (3) offers new career and technical educational opportunities not previously available to students enrolled at any campus in the Windham School District; ~~or~~
 - (4) [offers new career and technical education opportunities not previously available as part of any existing educational programs that are offered in facilities operated wholly or partly by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, a juvenile board, or a juvenile probation department, including a facility operated by a private vendor under a contract with the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, a juvenile board, or a juvenile probation department; or](#)

| ~~(5)(4)~~ is provided in cooperation with other public junior colleges, public technical institutes, or public state colleges across existing service areas.

(d) A grant recipient shall provide the matching funds as identified in its application.

(1) Matching funds may be obtained from any source available to the grant recipient, including industry consortia, community or foundation grants, individual contributions, and local governmental agency operating funds.

(2) A grant recipient's matching share may consist of one or more of the following contributions:

(A) cash;

(B) equipment, equipment use, materials, or supplies;

(C) personnel or curriculum development cost; and/or

(D) administrative costs that are directly attributable to the project.

(3) The matching funds must be expended on the same project for which the grant funds are provided and valued in a manner acceptable or as determined by the Agency.