



# Texas Purchasing from People with Disabilities

[texasworkforce.gov/workswonders](https://texasworkforce.gov/workswonders)





## ABOUT TPPD

Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC's) "*WorksWonders*" program encourages state agencies and other political subdivisions to give preference to goods and services offered by community rehabilitation programs (CRPs) that employ persons with disabilities.

Texas state agencies, cities, school districts and other governmental entities purchase billions of dollars' worth of products and services each year. The Texas Purchasing from People with Disabilities (TPPD) program works to ensure that government purchasers take advantage of products and services offered by Texans with disabilities, helping them achieve and maintain their independence through gainful employment.

The program has helped tens of thousands of Texans with disabilities find work in jobs at CRPs affiliated with *WorksWonders*. Many of those employees have gone on to private-sector employment in their communities. As taxpayers, they help contribute to the local community tax base, strengthening the local economy while guaranteeing their own independence.

*WorksWonders* links you with products and services used every day by your organization, including paper, pens, furniture, cleaning services and more. Your continued use of these products and services ensures continued employment for disabled Texans around the state with disabilities.



The *WorksWonders* logo is a recognized symbol of high-quality products and services offered by Texans with disabilities.



## HOW IT WORKS

TWC contracts with a nonprofit organization, WORKQUEST, to manage the *WorksWonders* program and provide financial support for the operations.

WORKQUEST recruits CRPs from across the state for participation in the *WorksWonders* program, pending TWC acceptance. TPPD also approves the CRPs' products and services for inclusion in the program, and sets fair market prices at its Texas Workforce Commission's meetings.

Meeting dates and times can be found online at **[texasworkforce.gov/events](https://texasworkforce.gov/events)**.

Currently, WORKQUEST works with over 100 CRPs to help market their products and services to state and local governments. WORKQUEST distributes purchase requests to CRPs, processes orders so as to provide CRPs advance payments for goods and services sold and strives to maintain friendly customer relations with state and local government purchasers.

WORKQUEST promotes CRP products and services through not only a printed catalog, but also on its website (<https://workquest.com>), which offers an online catalog as well as information on new products, store locations, upcoming events and more.





## IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

State law requires Texas state agencies to check the WORKQUEST website before purchasing goods and services, and to obtain them through WORKQUEST if available. TPPD encourages local governments to purchase through the State Use Program.

### **Your cooperation yields numerous benefits for our state, including:**

- meaningful employment and training for persons with disabilities
- an increased tax base and
- increased spending in local economies

### **State agencies may make purchases outside the program if:**

- the product or service available through WORKQUEST does not meet reasonable requirements or
- WORKQUEST cannot provide a service or temporary service sought in your region of the state

*State agencies must report* all procurements of WORKQUEST-available goods and services made outside the program to TWC. The reports are recorded and available for review through TWC/TPPD's website. There is no requirement to report purchases outside the program if the item purchased is not available from WORKQUEST. The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts conducts random audits of state agency purchases and reports to the TWC any failures to comply with the law.

TWC's mission is to promote and support a workforce system that creates value and offers employers, individuals and communities the opportunity to achieve and sustain economic prosperity.





## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

[texasworkforce.gov/workswonders](https://texasworkforce.gov/workswonders)

contains program details, agency contacts, links  
and more information.

For additional information, email  
[PurchasingfromPeoplewithDisabilities@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:PurchasingfromPeoplewithDisabilities@twc.state.tx.us)

Complaint regarding matters pertaining to the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Program shall be made in writing and addressed to the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Manager for review and determination. The written complaint must include the name and address of the person who filed the complaint and the subject matter of the complaint. Once the complaint is received, a response is sent to the individual filing the complaint, and to each individual who is a subject of the complaint. A summary of the investigation will be provided to the Director of the Office of Disability Employment Strategies.

Submit complaints:  
Texas Workforce Commission  
1117 Trinity Street #214T  
Austin, Texas 78701



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