

Board Oversight Capacity—BCY 2022

TWC Rule §802.67. Commission Evaluation of Board Oversight Capacity

West Central Texas Score Card

The Texas Workforce Commission’s annual evaluation of each Board’s oversight capacity. Boards are assigned a rating of Meets Standards or Below Standards for each of the following six categories.

Develop, maintain, and upgrade comprehensive fiscal management systems

Meets

- √ Does the Board have fiscal management systems in place that include appropriate fiscal controls?
- √ * Does the Board, during its regularly scheduled meetings, include a quarterly review of the financial status of the Board and its service providers for all funding sources it administers?
- √ Have single audits been free of material weaknesses?

Hire, train, and retain qualified staff to carry out the Board’s oversight activities

Meets

- √ Has the Board been certified?
- √ * Has the Board hired or retained qualified staff (Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer, Program Director, Contract Management Staff, Monitoring staff) to oversee contractors?

Select and oversee local contractors to improve the delivery of workforce services

Meets

- √ Does the Board have an effective formal procurement process, and has the Board been following this process?
- √ Does the Board have a certified monitoring function in place to oversee contractors?
- √ The Board has no disallowed costs exceeding one percent of allocation (non-self-reported).
- √ The Board has no disallowed costs exceeding one percent which resulted in repaying funds.

Oversee and improve the operations of Workforce Solutions Offices in the Board’s service area

Meets

- √ Does the Board have certified Workforce Solutions Offices?
- √ * Can the Board provide documentation demonstrating that it has policies in place to address service improvement, such as the initiation of performance improvement or service improvement plans when performance issues are identified with a local contractor?

- √ * Has the Board applied its service improvement policy when necessary?

Manage the contractors' performance across multiple Board programs

Meets

- √ Did the Board meet target on at least 80 percent of its contracted performance measures?
- √ Is the Board within 35 percent of target on all contracted performance measures?
- √ * Does the Board hold performance oversight meetings, do performance reviews, or, during its regularly scheduled meetings, include a review of its status on contracted performance measures at least four times throughout the year?

Identify and resolve long-standing or severe Board oversight problems and workforce service provider performance issues

Meets

- √ The Board did not miss target on the same performance measure two years in a row.
- √ The Board does not have any unresolved material weaknesses discovered through a single audit.
- √ The Board has not been placed on an Intent to Sanction or a Sanction.

West Central Texas Community Impact Statement

A written statement from each Board summarizing its impact on and relationship with the local community and economy. Specify how the Board's efforts demonstrate and contribute to an effective workforce system by engaging employers, helping workers find jobs, and ensuring good fiscal stewardship.

High Profile Statistics:

Jobseekers served:	2230*
Employers served:	2,086*
Average Number of children served per day:	1,525

**Data through 8/31/22*

Assistance to Employers and Jobseekers

Creating connections between employers and qualified jobseekers.

- The annual Hiring Red White and You veterans job fair in November 2022 included 65 in-person employers and 16 virtual employers. The event was attended by 120 in-person jobseeker and 12 virtual jobseekers.
- Hosted regional summer job fair in Abilene on July 20 that connected 80 employers with 250 jobseekers.
- Hosted regional job fairs in rural communities including Early, Eastland, Haskell, and Sweetwater.
- New this past year, we began partnering with employers to host virtual showcase events. These events allowed jobseekers to connect with employers to learn more about the business, types of jobs and career opportunities. Unlike, hiring events, these events were designed to increase awareness and provide an opportunity for jobseekers to ask questions in a non-threatening, accessible environment.

Business and Education Partnerships

Building relationships between business and education to improve alignment.

- Continued to serve as backbone support for industry sector partnership, Big Country Manufacturing Alliance (BCMA). BCMA served as a sponsor and presenter at the Hispanic Leadership Council Planning for College and Career Workshop in April 2022 that was attended by approximately 100 students and parents. BCMA awarded \$1,000 scholarships to two high school seniors planning to pursue careers related to manufacturing. BCMA was a Champion sponsor of the World of Work Youth Expo in September and expanded "Manufacturing Alley" to highlight 14 different manufacturers from across the region.
- BCMA employers provided tours and support for high school welding instructors from 8 districts as part of the Summer Welding Institute hosted by Region XIV Education Service Center.
- BCMA was nominated by region 12 Career and Technical Education Association of Texas (CTAT) for their support of career and technical education and was selected by CTAT to receive the Business Educational Partnership Award.
- BCMA hosted Manufacturing Day on October 6, 2021, which provided an opportunity for approximately 400 students from 12 different school districts to take tours of manufacturing facilities. The event also included a luncheon with a keynote speaker and an employer panel discussing their workforce challenges. Approximately 65 individuals representing 11 different employers, economic development, education, workforce, and elected officials attended the event in person and an additional 22 unique sites were connected to participate virtually.
- During summer 2022, a total of 28 educators participated in externships with 18 different employers.

Career Pathways

Promoting awareness of and preparing students for local quality career opportunities.

- The eighth annual regional World of Work Youth Expo was held on September 13, 2022, as an in-person event at the Abilene Convention Center. The event was attended by 1,991 high school students from 44 school districts and included a keynote address. Over 80 exhibitors representing business, education and community partners connected with students and educators. A total of 142 students also participated in mock interviews conducted by community volunteers.
- State Rep. Stan Lambert served as the emcee for the Careers In Action video contest virtual premiere held on November 19, 2021. A total of 128 videos from 18 schools representing 12 unique districts were submitted by teacher-sponsored teams of middle and high school students. Winners had the option of receiving a digital media package, which included a DSLR camera and accessories or an iPad package, which included an iPad and iPad Pencil. A total of 22 awards were presented based on different categories and the grand prize winner was from Eula High School.
- The Workforce Career and Education Outreach Specialist Pilot Project ended in August 2021. Key stats from the last two years are as follows:
 - 2,472 career presentations to students
 - 39 partner school districts engaged
 - 669 one-on-one career planning sessions with students
 - 53,729 engagements with students
- What's Next—an event for seniors on track to graduate but lacking a clear career plan was held on March 30 at Region XIV Education Service Center and featured motivational speaker Tyson Dever. Tyson was paralyzed from the waist down as a result of a car wreck at the age of 22. Over 100 students from 15 schools also participated in seminars and one-on-one conversations to identify post-graduation options.
- To date, 4 students from 4 different rural school districts are participating in the Texas Internship Initiative.
- The Career Education and Outreach Specialist initiative continued using TANF funds to support two specialists in 22 school districts. Each district received a minimum of six career presentations highlighting career opportunities within the region. During the school year, over 540 career presentations were made to over 12,000 students.

Promoting Quality Child Care

Improving the quality of affordable childcare for families who are working or attending school.

- Providing Child Development Associate training for 19 current teachers through a hybrid, modular approach that allows completion of all required training over the course of a year. All attendees successfully completed training and 50% have currently attained their CDA with others still in progress.
- Hosted in-service conference for early childhood educators on September 10, 2022, with 45 educators receiving 7 hours of professional development. technical assistance to 96 directors and early childhood teachers regarding changes to the TRS guidelines.
- Over \$120,000 was spent in infant and toddler classrooms with four Texas Rising Start providers identified as being most in need of equipment and supplies along with customized mentoring, which has resulted in marked in positive improvements for children and providers.
- Offered Directors Toolbox Training, a series of six workshops during June – August 2022, to 20 directors of early childhood programs.
- Provided mentoring to 85+ early childhood educators at Texas Rising Star facilities.

General

- Celebrated the Board’s 25th anniversary at event on October 20, 2021. The event was attended by Ed Serna representing the Texas Workforce Commission and included a video highlighting key initiatives with special emphasis on the past five years. The event also included presentation of Sterling Awards to the following long-term partners:
 - 2-1-1 A Call for Help Texas
 - City of Abilene
 - Abilene Industrial Foundation
 - Breckenridge Economic Development Corporation
 - Brownwood Municipal Development District
 - Cisco College
 - Development Corporation of Abilene
 - Development Corporation of Snyder
 - Eastland Economic Development Corporation
 - Ranger College
 - Region XIV Education Service Center
 - Sweetwater Enterprise for Economic Development
 - Texas State Technical College
 - Western Texas College

√ = Meets Standard

X = Below Standard

* = Board Attestation