

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION LETTER

ID/No:	WD 30-11
Date:	August 18, 2011
Keyword:	Child Care; TWIST
Effective:	Immediately

To: Local Workforce Development Board Executive Directors
Commission Executive Offices
Integrated Service Area Managers



From: Laurence M. Jones, Director, Workforce Development Division

Subject: Senate Bill 400: Texas Rising Star Provider Participation in the Texas Procurement and Support Services Cooperative Purchasing Program

PURPOSE:

To provide Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with information and guidance on Texas Rising Star (TRS) Providers participation in the Texas Procurement and Support Services Cooperative Purchasing Program (State of Texas CO-OP) administered by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (Comptroller), specifically, providing notification to:

- TRS Providers; and
- the Comptroller regarding eligible TRS Providers.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 400, enacted by the 82nd Texas Legislature, Regular Session (2011), amends Texas Government Code §2155.202 to grant TRS Providers authority to participate in the State of Texas CO-OP.

The State of Texas CO-OP provides volume purchasing power to authorized local government and assistance organizations. State of Texas CO-OP members can purchase goods and services through state term contracts, Texas Multiple Award Schedule contracts, and piggyback contracts, thereby satisfying competitive bidding requirements.

PROCEDURES:

Notification to Texas Rising Star Providers

Boards must notify TRS Providers of the following:

- Effective September 1, 2011, TRS Providers are eligible to apply for participation in the State of Texas CO-OP;

NLF

- TRS Providers are responsible for applying to the State of Texas CO-OP if they wish to participate in the program;
- Information regarding the State of Texas CO-OP and the application process is on the Comptroller's Website at <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/coop/>; and
- Questions regarding State of Texas CO-OP purchases can be directed to the Comptroller at (512) 463-3368 or coop@cpa.state.tx.us.

Notification to Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts regarding Eligible Texas Rising Star Providers

Boards must be aware of the following:

- Effective September 1, 2011, the Texas Workforce Commission will send the Comptroller a list of all TRS Providers eligible to participate in the State of Texas CO-OP; and
- Effective October 1, 2011, and every month thereafter, an updated list will be provided to the Comptroller identifying TRS Providers that either gained or lost TRS status in the previous month.

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Boards also must ensure the accuracy of all TRS Provider data contained in the Child Care Service Delivery application and in TWIST, which will ensure the accuracy of the initial list provided to the Comptroller.

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INQUIRIES:

Direct inquiries regarding this WD Letter to wfpolicy.clarifications@twc.state.tx.us.

RESCISSIONS:

None

REFERENCE:

Senate Bill 400, 82nd Texas Legislature, Regular Session (2011)
Texas Government Code §2155.202

FLEXIBILITY RATINGS:

No Local Flexibility (NLF): This rating indicates that Boards must comply with the federal and state laws, rules, policies, and required procedures set forth in this WD Letter and have no local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to comply. All information with an NLF rating is indicated by “must” or “shall.”

Local Flexibility (LF): This rating indicates that Boards have local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to implement guidance or recommended practices set forth in this WD Letter. All information with an LF rating is indicated by “may” or “recommend.”