

# All Systems Go! Expanding IT Apprenticeships in Texas

Virtual Town Hall | 02-25-2021 | 1PM - 2 PM

## Event Questions and Answers

**Category:** Texas Workforce Commission

### 1. What was the website address again?

**Answer:** Visit the TWC Office of Apprenticeship online at [www.apprenticeshiptexas.com](http://www.apprenticeshiptexas.com).

### 2. What are the best strategies to find and engage IT businesses for existing apprenticeship programs? Does TWC have any resources to help connect businesses with existing IT apprenticeships?

**Answer:** TWC consistently partners with local workforce development boards and other entities to promote creating and expanding registered apprenticeship programs across the state. Additionally, to increase employer participation, TWC issues funding opportunities allowing local workforce development boards and community/technical colleges to apply for monies to expand or develop new registered apprenticeship programs. You can find the contact information for your local board [here](#) or contact the ApprenticeshipTexas team at [apprenticeshiptexas@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:apprenticeshiptexas@twc.state.tx.us) for more information. This fall, the ApprenticeshipTexas Conference will provide partners with an additional forum to learn best practices, exchange ideas and discuss challenges and opportunities to apprenticeship expansion. The conference will be held on September 23 and 24, 2021.

### 3. As a community college instructor in Computer Science (software development), apprenticeships would be very beneficial for many of my students who are not transferring to a 4-year university and want to go right to work. They are already trained to write computer applications. How do I find apprenticeships for these students? Do we apply through TWC?

**Answer:** The US Department of Labor's Apprenticeship.gov website provides a wealth of career exploration tools, training, and job searches for apprenticeship (and sometimes non-apprenticeship) opportunities. The Apprenticeship Finder can be accessed online [here](#). Registered Apprenticeship opportunities are labeled "REGISTERED" and have a gold star.

Additionally, community college partners interested in starting a Registered Apprenticeship Program anywhere in the state of Texas are encouraged to contact the ApprenticeshipTexas team at [apprenticeshiptexas@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:apprenticeshiptexas@twc.state.tx.us). The ApprenticeshipTexas team will answer any questions you may have and guide you through the registration process.

#### **4. Does Texas include telecommunications occupations as part of IT?**

**Answer:** For additional information on the IT Request for Applications (RFA) mentioned during the town hall, please see below: <http://www.txsmartbuy.com/esbddetails/view/32021-00164>

#### **5. How can we be registered in Texas as having a DOL apprenticeship program?**

**Answer:** Employers interested in starting a Registered Apprenticeship Program anywhere in the state of Texas are encouraged to contact the ApprenticeshipTexas team at [apprenticeshiptexas@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:apprenticeshiptexas@twc.state.tx.us). The ApprenticeshipTexas team will answer any questions you may have and guide you through the registration process.

#### **6. Is this being recorded? I missed the presentation from South Texas Electrical JATC?**

**Answer:** The recording for today's presentation can be found at <https://youtu.be/pKdKgW0i47A>.

#### **7. I am director at an IT vocational academy. We are growing our apprenticeship program, but my question here is in context of the helping our students find opportunities. We see the biggest challenge in finding company partners is the missing infrastructure in companies to receive apprentices. Is there site with resources/supports we can use to help educate companies?**

**Answer:** An important way to connect with employers is through the statewide Eligible Training Provider Listing (ETPL). Education and training entities that provide occupational and basic skills training may learn more about the [application process here](#). Before being added to the statewide ETPL, each training provider must submit the required performance information and receive approval from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

Local Workforce Board partners are a great resource for connecting Eligible Training Providers with employers. You can find the contact information for your local board [here](#). Additionally, the Department of Labor's Workforce GPS website [offers resources on employer engagement](#).