

Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas Board  
500 Chestnut, Suite 1200  
Abilene, TX 79602  
[www.wfswct.org](http://www.wfswct.org)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** Alyssa Goodgame  
**PHONE:** (325) 795-4211

## **Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas and Area Partners Awarded \$182,900 in Grants to Support Job Training**

**Abilene, Texas** – Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas, has received two grants from the Texas Workforce Commission: a \$145,400 High Demand Job Training (HDJT) grant in collaboration with the Development Corporation of Baird, Community Development Corporation of Baird and Baird ISD; and a \$37,500 Texas Industry Partnership grant in partnership with the Abilene Industrial Foundation, Abilene Chamber of Commerce, and Development Corporation of Abilene. These grants will benefit workers in the Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas area.

“The competition for skilled workers is high which is why Texas Industry Partnership and High Demand Job Training grants are so important to local workers,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. “Thanks to collaborations between local Workforce Solutions offices, economic development corporations and education partners, our labor force will get the experience and training necessary to pursue long-term careers in the region.”

Workforce Solutions of West Central has been granted the \$145,400 HDJT grant to match funds provided by the Development Corporation of Baird and the Community Development Corporation of Baird. This grant will provide equipment and job training at Baird ISD for up to 20 students each semester to receive instruction for careers as welders and fabricators. Abilene Industrial Foundation and their Develop Abilene partners will match the \$37,500 Texas Industry Partnership grant provided to Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas to conduct an analysis of industry sectors to evaluate the labor shed, workforce trends, skill requirements, training availability and correlation of training to business needs for the area. Information will be shared with K-12, postsecondary and workforce partners to enhance and expand demand-driven training, programs and services for these sectors.

*The Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas Board is charged with oversight and policy-making responsibility for local workforce and training programs. We are committed to strengthening the economic vitality of our 19-county region by investing in the success of residents and businesses. Our assistance and expertise are provided to both the job seeker and the employer. Visit our website at [www.wfswct.org](http://www.wfswct.org). Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available, upon request, to individuals with disabilities. Relay: 1-800-735-2989 (TTY) / 711 (voice). Programs/services are funded 86% with federal funds and 14% with non-federal funds.*

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