

# Texas Workforce Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Collin County Community College Partners with a Nine-Member Business Consortium for a TWC Job-Training Grant**

AUSTIN — Collin County Community College has partnered with nine North Central Texas area businesses to provide job training utilizing a \$564,254 Skills Development Fund grant provided by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

The grant will be used to custom-train workers for 70 new and 712 upgraded jobs. Upon completion of training, mechanics, electricians, machine operators, plant managers, quality engineers, IT specialists, production supervisors and others will receive an average hourly wage of \$21.04.

“Collin County’s continued growth and prosperity depend on the quality of our workforce,” said Sen. Florence Shapiro. “This grant will help our local manufacturers train their workers for high-wage, high-skill jobs, and further diversify our regional economy. I congratulate Collin County Community College on this outstanding project and thank the Texas Workforce Commission for its continued investment in our state.”

“Today’s grant announcement is great news for North Texas,” said Rep. Ken Paxton. “Our workers will be trained with the specific skills our local employers need, making this a winning deal for the workers, the businesses and Collin County communities. This is precisely the type of partnership we need to promote between education and industry.”

“Workforce development and skills training are at the very heart of economic development,” said TWC Chair Diane Rath. “Through the successful partnership of public education and private industry, the Skills Development Fund will provide training to create thousands of jobs throughout the state.”

In Fiscal Year 2005, 23 Skills Development Fund grants created or upgraded 12,247 jobs (3,351 and 8,896 respectively). The jobs paid an average hourly wage of \$17.01. The grants totaled \$8.6 million and assisted 95 Texas employers with their customized training needs. The Legislature has appropriated \$40.4 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2006-07 biennium.

Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the TWC Web site at [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).

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*The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).*

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