

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grayson County College Receives \$1 Million in Skills Development Fund and WIA Job-Training Grants from TWC

AUSTIN — The Texoma area workforce will benefit from \$1 million in job training from grants provided by the Skills Development Fund and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds both administered by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). Grayson County College has partnered with Tyson Fresh Meats Inc. to provide the training.

This is the second installation of a three-year grant, which will be used to create a total of 1,600 jobs that will pay an average annual salary of \$24,000 upon completion of training.

“Partnerships between educational institutions and industry help produce a strong and adaptable workforce,” said state Rep. Larry Phillips. “Support from the Skills Development Fund for job-training initiatives such as this is a key factor to successful economic development in our region. Congratulations to Tyson Fresh Meats and Grayson County College.”

“The partnership of private enterprise and public education has been a powerful force in economic development in Texas,” said TWC Chair Diane Rath. “This Skills Development Fund grant continues those efforts, and we are all indebted to the Governor and the Legislature for their continued support of customized training that benefits both employers and workers.”

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.

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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.

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