

Texas Workforce Press Release

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DuPont Partners with Lee College for a \$226,645 Job-Training Grant

AUSTIN — The Gulf Coast area workforce will benefit from a \$226,645 job-training grant from the Skills Development Fund that the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) administers. DuPont will partner with Lee College for the grant.

The grant will be used to create or upgrade the skills of 325 machinist, mechanical and electrical engineer, first line supervisor and manager positions, among others. Upon completion of training, workers will earn an average hourly wage of \$30.71.

“I would like to commend all the partners involved in making this Skills grant successful,” state Sen. Mario Gallegos said. “Through Lee College, workers will receive the training they need to become more successful in the workplace.”

“The Skills Development Fund grants allow workers to upgrade their skills and employers to gain more skilled employees,” state Rep. Wayne Smith said. “This is truly a great program that seeks to create a stronger workforce in Texas.”

“The Skills Development Fund is one of the best programs in the state to provide employers with the skilled workforce they need,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ron Lehman. “Thanks to the Governor and the Legislature, TWC makes these grants available each year, helping hundreds of Texas employers succeed.”

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, Skills Development Fund grants created or upgraded 20,831 jobs, which paid an average hourly wage of \$19.04. These grants assisted 281 Texas employers with their customized training needs. The Legislature has appropriated \$50 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2008-09 biennium. Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit TWC’s Skills Development Fund Web page at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdfintro.html>.

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In this photo released by the Texas Workforce Commission, TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ron Lehman presents a Skills Development Fund grant check for \$226,645 to (from left) Lee College President Martha Ellis, State Representative Wayne Smith and DuPont Plant Manager Bobby Laughlin. *(Lee College photo)*

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