



Annual Grant Report

— FY 2016 —

Grant Development,
Management and Compliance



SOUTH TEXAS
COLLEGE



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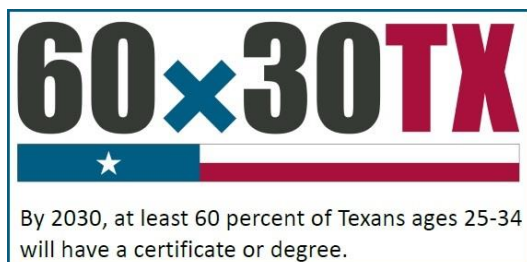
ACCELERATE TEXAS MENTOR COLLEGE

Funding Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Award: \$132,000
Funding Period: July 1, 2015 – November 30, 2016
Division/Department: Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education
Principal Investigator (PI): Juan Carlos Aguirre, Director of Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education

The “Accelerate Texas Mentor College” grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board supports the Office of Continuing Professional and Workforce Education to provide technical assistance and professional development mentoring services in the areas of Integrated Career Pathways to three Accelerate Texas colleges: Texas Southmost College, Texas State Technical College - Harlingen, and Laredo Community College.

This project provides:

- career pathway training services for students in technical programs, such as Accounting Assistant, Certified Nurse Assistant, Computer Assistant, Emergency Care Attendant, Health Information Management Coding Clerk, Pharmacy Technician Trainee, Phlebotomy, and Pipe Welding
- intensive college and career counseling and case management services to participants throughout the duration of the program



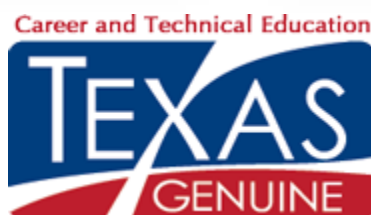
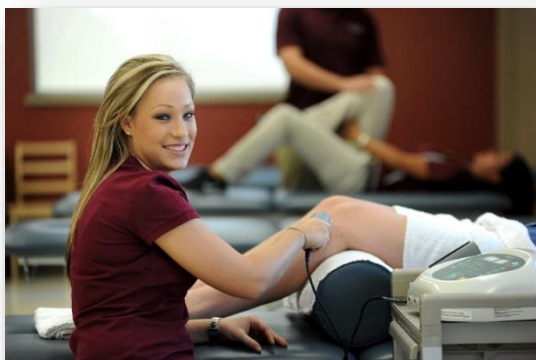
CARL PERKINS BASIC

Funding Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Award: \$1,419,011
Funding Period: September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016
Division/Department: College-wide
Principal Investigator (PI): Samantha B. Uriegas, Grants and Contracts Compliance Officer

Carl Perkins funds are awarded to community and technical colleges to improve graduation, retention, access, quality, and expansion of Career and Technical Education programs. This grant heavily supports STC's Strategic Directions One and Two: Clear Pathway, as well as Access and Success. Thirty (30) Career and Technical Education instructional programs have been selected from the Divisions of Nursing and Allied Health; Business and Technology; and Liberal Arts & Social Sciences for improvement with these funds. In support of Career and Technical Education programs and students, funds will also be provided to the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management and Continuing and Professional Workforce Education areas.

This grant supports:

- instructional resources and software,
- professional development,
- program promotion, and
- other expenditures aligned to the purpose and intent of the Carl Perkins Basic Grant Program



Source: Photos from the TEXASgenuine website

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND ADVISING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS IN HIGHER EDUCATION (IPASS)

Funding Agency: Educause
Award: \$225,000
Funding Period: September 8, 2015 – September 7, 2018
Division/Department: Information Services, Planning & Strategic Initiatives
Principal Investigator (PI): Dr. David Plummer, Vice President for Information Services,
Planning & Strategic Initiatives

A previous iPASS grant funded the implementation of the College's DegreeWorks degree audit and planning system, which ties into the College's Banner Student Information System and allows students, faculty, and staff to plan a student's pathway from their first semester through graduation. It is this integration that has allowed the College to keep students on track with their degree plan and show them their progress towards their requirements for graduation.

This iPASS grant supports the development and extension of services to help students plan a pathway from their first semester through graduation. This grant furthers South Texas College's implementation of DegreeWorks degree audit and planning system, which ties into the College's Banner Student Information system. This system helps faculty and staff to implement best practices that assist students to stay on track to complete their certificate and/or degree programs. This iPASS grant supports:

- the development of multiple, robust communication that provides relevant and timely information to support new, continuing, or returning students
- the implementation of an early alert system to help identify students that may run a higher risk of non-completion and connect them to the most appropriate services to help them succeed



CATCH THE NEXT (CTN) PUENTE INTEGRATED READING/WRITING PROGRAM

Funding Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Award: \$50,000
Funding Period: August 6, 2015 – August 31, 2016
Division/Department: Academic Affairs / Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Principal Investigator (PI): Dr. Margaretha Bischoff, Dean of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

This grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) supports the implementation of the Catch the Next (CTN) Puente Integrated Reading/Writing Program. Through this program, South Texas College helps students by implementing curriculum and accelerate students through the developmental reading and writing sequence. Through this program, South Texas College collaborates with CTN to further improve student success and enhance their learning experience. Additionally, this grant serves underserved and low-income students to persist in their studies.



ACCELERATE TEXAS: INTEGRATED EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Funding Agency: Texas Workforce Commission
Award: \$672,021
Funding Period: September 1, 2015 – May 31, 2017
Division/Department: Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education
Principal Investigator (PI): Juan Carlos Aguirre, Director of Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education

This grant provides innovative basic skills training, workforce training, and career pathway programs that promote upward educational and career mobility. Through this program, South Texas College is able to serve 240 participants in collaboration with the following institutions and employers:

- Workforce Solutions (WFS),
- AEL provider Region One Education Service Center (Region One),
- Texas A&M University HEP (TAMU HEP),
- University of Texas - Pan American HEP (UTPA HEP),
- Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Literacy Center, and
- Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement (VIDA);
- Texas Oncology,
- Southern Steel Fabricators,
- Mission Police Department, and
- Swift Transportation



CITY OF MCALLEN

Funding Agency: City of McAllen/McAllen Economic Development Corporation
Award: \$480,000
Funding Period: October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016
Division/Department: Industry Training and Economic Development-Institute for Advanced Manufacturing
Principal Investigator (PI): Carlos Margo, Associate Dean of Industry Training and Economic Development

The City of McAllen awarded this grant to South Texas College with financial support from the McAllen Economic Development Corporation to train at least six hundred and fifty new and incumbent workers in the local manufacturing industry. This grant aligns to South Texas College's Strategic Initiatives by supporting job creation and by providing grant funded student support that increases retention. Together with the City of McAllen, South Texas College and local manufacturers collaborated to implement high quality training through the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing.



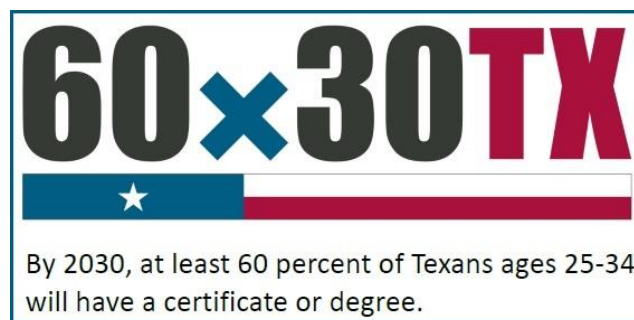
T-STEM CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP

Funding Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Award: \$283,500
Funding Period: September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016
Division/Department: Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
Principal Investigator (PI): Miguel Carranza, Associate Dean Student Financial Services,
Testing & Veterans Affairs

This grant provided funds for scholarships to South Texas College students with a Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics (STEM) major. Provisions for scholarships included financial need and academic merit for students with majors in a STEM related field. This grant program targeted underserved and low-income students and focused on increasing their persistence in STEM studies, which aligns to South Texas College's strategic goal for Access and Success and a High Success Rate.

In addition to the scholarship, opportunities for students to participate in career readiness workshops were available. These workshops were designed to assist students in:

- writing a resume
- interview skills training
- training in accessing South Texas College's Job Board



TEXAS REGIONAL STEM DEGREE ACCELERATOR INITIATIVE

Funding Agency: Educate Texas
Award: \$300,000
Funding Period: November 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016
Division/Department: Academic Affairs
Principal Investigator (PI): Valerie Gamez, Project Director – Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)

As part of this initiative, South Texas College has strengthened and expanded partnerships with several school districts, other post-secondary institutions, non-profits, and has created a network in the communities that we serve. This regional consortium has involved the examination of regional workforce data, the development of STEM pathways, redesign of gateway courses in STEM majors, alignment to workforce needs, and professional development for faculty to improve teaching and learning in STEM fields.

This project seeks to improve the persistence and completion rates in STEM related disciplines to produce a diverse, highly-skilled pool of students who are prepared to transition from a two-year to a four-year institution and/or are career ready upon graduation.



Texas Regional STEM Degree Accelerator Webpage:

<http://www.southtexascollege.edu/grants/trsda/>

WORK-STUDY STUDENT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Funding Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Award: \$75,000
Funding Period: November 1, 2015 – August 31, 2017
Division/Department: Student Affairs and Enrollment Management
Principal Investigator (PI): Nancy Garcia, Director of Comprehensive Advisement & Mentoring Services

The Work-Study Student Mentorship Program is designed to build a college-going culture within high schools in the communities served by South Texas College. This project provides support at the College/Career Centers in Starr County High Schools and at the South Texas College Starr County Campus by:

- 1) allowing work-study mentors to mentor at high school college/career centers; and by
- 2) promoting college retention and completion rates at STC's Starr County Campus.



ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAM SUBAWARD

Funding Agency: Texas Workforce Commission/Region One Education Service Center
Award: \$146,490
Funding Period: November 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016
Division/Department: Continuing, Professional and Workforce Development
Principal Investigator (PI): Juan Carlos Aguirre, Director of Continuing, Professional and Workforce Development

This subaward provided funds for 200 participants to receive GED preparation services from the South Texas College Continuing Professional and Workforce Education Department. The grant, awarded to the Region One Education Service Center supports South Texas College and off-sets the cost of tuition, supplies, materials, testing, travel, and other expenses for program students, as approved by the Texas Workforce Commission.



CHILD CARE TRAINING - CONFERENCES

Funding Agency: Texas Workforce Solutions
Award: \$20,000
Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Liberal Arts and Social Sciences – Child Development
Principal Investigator (PI): Cecilia Villagran, Childcare Services Developer

The Child Care Training - Conferences grant from Workforce Solutions provides funds to develop and conduct professional development conferences. This program has enabled South Texas College to train child care providers in the WorkForce Solution Child Care Services Division network. Funds provided support to off-set the costs of Child Development Conference admissions fees and other related expenditures.

This program promotes a college-going culture through proactive outreach and marketing programs that emphasize the value of post-secondary educational, credentials, including certificates, associate degrees, and baccalaureate degrees.



COLLEGE BOUND ELEMENTARY

Funding Agency: BBVA Compass Foundation
Award: \$7,500
Funding Period: January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016
Division/Department: Student Affairs and Enrollment Management/Dual 2 Degree
Principal Investigator (PI): Lazaro Barroso, Director of College Connection & Admissions for Traditional Students

The College Bound Elementary Program supported the College's mission to instill a college going culture in area elementary students.

Under this program, elementary students toured South Texas College and participate in the Junior Jaguar Leadership Conference. The students who participated, received age appropriate leadership training and financial literacy information. Parents of these students benefitted by receiving information on how to promote a college going culture in their family and information about financial literacy.



CHILDCARE TRAINING

Funding Agency: Workforce Solutions-Lower Rio Grande Valley Workforce Development Board
Award: \$61,160
Funding Period: December 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Social & Behavioral Sciences - Child Development
Principal Investigator (PI): Veronica Rodriguez, Department Chair of Child Development

The Childcare Training offered through this grant has supported South Texas College in providing two college courses that involve course work and field experiences in child care settings, enabling students to build the necessary skills to become a Child Development Associate (CDA) and to meet the need for high quality training in the area of Early Childhood Education.

Approximately twenty participants have participated in the CDA I and CDA II trainings after proactive outreach and marketing. These trainings emphasize the value of post-secondary educational credentials.



UTEACH INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT

Funding Agency: University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Award: \$5,058
Funding Period: September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Math and Science
Principal Investigator (PI): Dr. Enriqueta Cortez, Department Chair of Chemistry, Physics and Engineering

This program funded an extension of the ongoing UTeach program previously coordinated through the University of Texas Pan American. UTeach focuses on meeting the need for secondary teachers in the STEM fields.

As part of the agreement with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), the following services were provided:

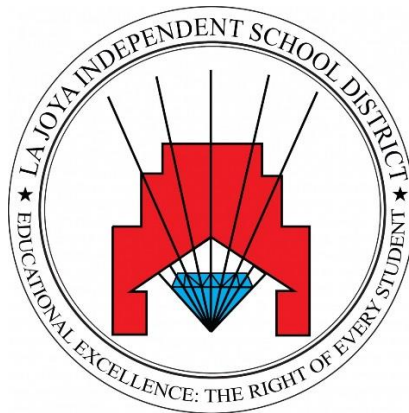
- UTeach courses were offered, as required by the secondary teacher education program
- UTeach students were reimbursed for the cost of tuition upon passing one or both of the one-hour courses through UTRGV funds
- Support was provided for UTeach outreach and recruiting activities and events
- Direct involvement of a South Texas College Coordinator to ensure project success



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Funding Agency: La Joya Independent School District
Award: \$8,000
Funding Period: December 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Engineering and Mathematics
Principal Investigator (PI): Dr. Ali Esmacili, Dean for Math, Science and Bachelor Programs

This grant provided financial support to establish a Professional Development Partnership between the La Joya Independent School District (LJISD) and South Texas College. As part of their collaboration, STC and LJISD entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide Professional development services to for La Joya Independent School District instructional staff. South Texas College Faculty members from the Engineering and Mathematics disciplines planned and designed curriculum and provided training for secondary mathematics and engineering teachers.



WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) FOR INDUSTRY – RECOGNIZED SKILLS CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE

Funding Agency: Workforce Solutions - Lower Rio Grande Valley Workforce Development Board, Inc.
Award: \$108,000
Funding Period: February 1, 2016 - June 30, 2016
Division/Department: Industry Training and Economic Development-Institute for Advanced Manufacturing
Principal Investigator (PI): Jose Raul Ruiz, Interim Training Manager

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Statewide Funding for Industry – Recognized Skills Certification Initiative provided support for adult education and training to prepare job seekers with the skills necessary for success in jobs. Training was designed to align to and meet employer demand for high quality workforce development programs. It aimed to improve skills, education, and literacy levels. Equipment that was needed to provide quality training was acquired to support eligible participants under the Texas Workforce Commission WIA Statewide Funding for Industry – Recognized Skills Certification Initiative for packaging Machinery Manufacturing Institutes.

Additionally, this program led to expanded partnerships to support participating students to identify employment. Employers also benefited from services designed to increase job retention. This project succeeded in helping residents of the communities served by South Texas College by increasing their earning potential.



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS (STEP) 2 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) RESEARCH SUCCESS

Funding Agency: United States Department of Agriculture – University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Award: \$100,000
Funding Period: September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2019
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Math, Sciences and Bachelor Programs-Biology
Principal Investigator (PI): Dr. Keith Daniel Murray, Biology Instructor
Co-PI: Dr Mehrzad Mahmoudian Geller, Biology Instructor

The STEP 2 USDA Research Success subaward from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley provides financial support to South Texas College for faculty, student awards, travel, equipment, and materials and supplies through 2019.

The program targets students at South Texas College to become academically prepared for careers in the Biological and Environmental Sciences. The aim of this program is to serve as a program and model for successfully training the current generation for careers in science and preparation of Hispanics to enter the USDA workforce. More specifically, this project is designed to:

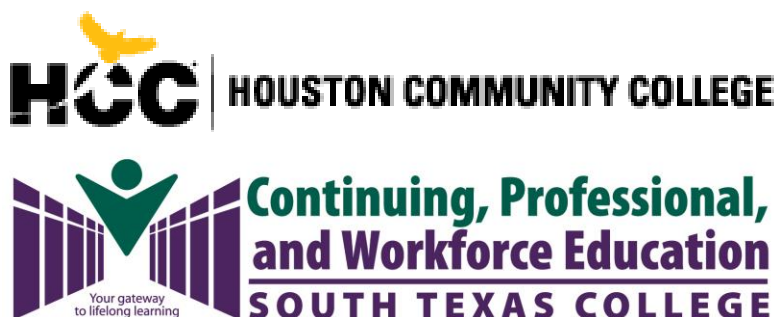
- provide undergraduate education and hands-on training
- engage learners in intensive short-courses based in soils, biotechnology and environmental sciences that prepare students for careers related to the food, agricultural, and natural resource systems of the United States
- provide summer undergraduate internship experiences with agriculturally related industry private sector, and State or Federal institutions as fast-track preparation for career success



CAREER PATHWAYS EXPANSION

Funding Agency: Houston Community College System
Award: \$100,000
Funding Period: February 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017
Division/Department: Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education
Principal Investigator (PI): Juan Carlos Aguirre, Dean of Continuing Professional and Workforce Education

Funding awarded by the Houston Community College System enables South Texas College's Continuing Professional and Workforce Education program to provide technical assistance and professional development mentoring services. The Career Pathways Expansion provides funding to South Texas College, covering costs of salaries, benefits, consultant subcontracts, supplies, materials, travel, and other expense, to accomplish the goals of the program. Specific program services are focused on providing Integrated Education and Training Career Pathways to Texas Workforce Commission Adult Education and Literacy Grant Recipients, as well as Accelerate Texas Colleges.



PUBLIC TRANSIT BUS DRIVER TRAINING

Funding Agency: Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council – Valley Metro
Award: \$117,000
Funding Period: January 19, 2016 – August 31, 2016
Division/Department: Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education
Principal Investigator (PI): Juan Carlos Aguirre, Dean of Continuing Professional and Workforce Education

The Public Transit Bus Driver Training provided funds for student tuition and fees, as well as other expenses for South Texas College's Continuing Professional and Workforce Education to provide Public Transit Bus Driver Certification training. Approximately thirty participants participated to become newly certified bus drivers, and additional thirty participants enrolled in a refresher training.



GOVERNOR'S SUMMER MERIT PROGRAM

Funding Agency: Texas Workforce Commission
Award: \$44,919
Funding Period: February 2016 - August 31, 2016
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Academies and High School Projects
Principal Investigator (PI): Rebecca De Leon, Director of Academies and High School Projects

The Governor's Summer Merit Program provided a summer 2016 CyberCamp. The Camp to engaged students in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related activities in a hands-on-format. Underserved and low-income students were served through this enriching experience that involved students in interactive learning activities. Students were also encouraged to persist in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related studies.



PROJECT HIRE (HELPING INDIVIDUALS REACH EMPLOYMENT)

Funding Agency: Department of Assistive and Rehabilitation Services (DARS)
Award: \$91,889
Funding Period: May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017
Division/Department: Student Affairs and Enrollment Management/Counseling
Principal Investigator (PI): Santa Peña, Director of Counseling

The Department of Assistive and Rehabilitation Services (DARS) Project HIRE agreement with South Texas College was established to provide staff and interpreter services for comprehensive disability-related services for individuals with developmental disabilities enrolled in South Texas College for post-secondary training.

DARS merged with Texas Workforce Commission on September 1, 2016. Funds will continue to be used through the funding period for this grant to meet the award's intended purpose: to increase access and the success of students with developmental disabilities.



STUDENT INTER-CHAPTER RELATIONS

Funding Agency: American Chemical Society
Award: \$750
Funding Period: February 1, 2016 – July 1, 2016
Division/Department: Student Affairs and Enrollment Management/Student Activities and Wellness – Chemistry Club
Principal Investigator (PI): Dr. Ludivina Avila, Chemistry Instructor/Club Advisor

This award supported the Chemistry Club to provide outreach activities, which included funding to offset the costs of facility rentals, supplies, transportation, and snacks for the Chemistry Club Activities.



STEP SUBAWARD

Funding Agency: National Science Foundation (NSF) - University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV)
Award: \$58,893
Funding Period: September 15, 2015 – August 31, 2018
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Math, Science and Bachelor Programs
Principal Investigator (PI): Mario Morin, Department Chair of Mathematics

The NSF STEP subaward from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley provides funding for South Texas College to support the implementation of a Summer Bridge to Calculus program, a Bridge to Engineering program, student mentorship, supplemental instruction, and student leadership training for mentors. Additionally, this grant supported the purchase of educational resources, such as software and other classroom tools that support outcomes based student learning. Overall, this project was designed to increase the college completion rate of students, and it will continue to be implemented through 2018.



COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER GRANT SUBAWARD

Funding Agency: University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV)
Award: \$12,000
Funding Period: May 1, 2016 – August 31, 2016
Division/Department: Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education
Principal Investigator (PI): Juan Carlos Aguirre, Dean of Continuing Professional and Workforce Education

The Community Health Worker subaward provided funding to South Texas College's Continuing Professional and Workforce Education Program to prepare participants to become certified by the Texas Department of State Health Services. Grant funding helped to off-set the cost of tuition, fees, and other expenses, which has made a positive difference for students. This project also involved direct collaboration with the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, which has been mutually supportive of our respective institutions mission and goals toward student success.



MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE CASE DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION

Funding Agency: Indiana University - Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER)
Award: \$1,500
Funding Period: April 2016 – March 2017
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Business and Technology - Economics
Principal Investigator (PI): Dr. Rosemond Moore, Business Administration Instructor

Indiana University (IU) Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) research project is titled “A Natural Gas Pipeline Network Between Russia and China: Is this a Viable Option to Improve Economic Growth and Well-being in Both Countries?” This grant award supports faculty research and development of a case study, which that helps develop faculty knowledge as they research and develop for students. Funds are utilized for case research and development, travel, applet development, and printing for instructional materials.

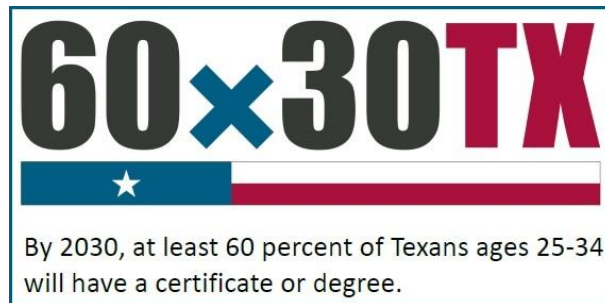
More specifically, this program enables faculty to develop a case as a learning opportunity that integrates technology so that South Texas College students can study the reduction of emissions, decreases in lung/asthma cases, and gains from trade. The case study developed through this grant will be utilized by instructors who teach the following courses: Macroeconomics and Microeconomics. The development and integration of this case into Economics courses will provide innovative curriculum for students that integrates technology.



TEXAS SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (T-STEM) CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Funding Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)
Award: \$368,980
Funding Period: September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2018
Division/Department: Student Affairs and Enrollment Management/Financial
Services, Testing, & Veteran Affairs
Principal Investigator (PI): Judy Martinez, Scholarship Coordinator

This program support the development, implementation, and maintenance of scholarships to eligible, high achieving college students pursuing degree programs in identified science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs at South Texas College. The T-STEM Challenge Scholarship Program is designed to increase the graduation rate of students enrolled in STEM degree and certificate programs. By seeking to increase graduation, supporting their educational experience and promoting student academic success through scholarships for high-achieving students, South Texas College is able to off-set the cost of tuition and support students to pursue credentials in STEM.



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FUND

Funding Agency: Texas Workforce Commission
Award: \$391,350
Funding Period: July 01, 2016 – June 30, 2017
Division/Department: Industry Training and Economic Development – Institute for Advanced Manufacturing
Principal Investigator (PI): Jose Raul Ruiz, Interim Training Manager

Through this training partnership project, South Texas College's Institute for Advanced Manufacturing will provide high quality customized training service to Lineage Logistics and Wonderful Citrus Packing, LLC. This project will provide training for up to 288 trainees. Innovative basic skills training, workforce training, and career pathway programs that promote upward educational and career mobility will be provided. Program services costs will include, but not limited to personnel salaries and wages, fringe benefits, tuition, fees, curriculum development, books, training materials, and consumable supplies.

<http://news.southtexascollege.edu/?p=10022>

http://www.themonitor.com/life/worldwise-trostel-woodcrafters-home-products-partner-with-stc-for-job/article_246cf0d2-4782-11e5-af65-f7da60079e76.html



TEXAS PREFRESHMAN ENGINEERING PROGRAM (TEXPREP)

Funding Agency: University of Texas at San Antonio
Award: \$19,880
Funding Period: June 1, 2016 – August 31, 2016
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Academies and High School Projects
Principal Investigator (PI): Rebecca De Leon, Director of Academies and High School Projects

The Texas Prefreshman Engineering Program (TexPREP) program provided funding for the seven week summer program held for rising 7th-9th grade students from Weslaco, Hidalgo, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo and Roma Independent School Districts. TexPREP hosted approximately 290 students at the Pecan, Mid Valley and Starr County campuses to focus on the development of abstract reasoning and problem-solving skills. In addition, the program aimed to improve access and awareness to careers in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields, which included hands-on academia, mentoring and career speakers. The funds were used for supporting personnel, classroom supplies, and academic fieldtrips to an institution of higher education.



CAPACITY BUILDING FOR ABILITY TO BENEFIT

Funding Agency: Texas Workforce Commission
Award: \$354,000
Funding Period: July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2018
Division/Department: Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education
Principal Investigator (PI): Juan Carlos Aguirre, Dean of Continuing Professional and Workforce Education

The Capacity Building for Ability to benefit program provides students served by the Continuing Professional and Workforce Education program with instructional services, credit hours, and financial support enabling students to develop knowledge, skills, and to become better prepared to meet workforce demands. This grant is awarded through December 31, 2018 for South Texas College's Continuing Professional and Workforce Education Department. The Department will use the funding to serve at least one hundred participants by providing high quality instructional services for GED preparation, as well as six credit hours within an eligible certificate or degree program that each participant will choose.

The Capacity Building for Ability to Benefit program aligns to a specific provision in federal financial aid regulations that allows students who lack a high school diploma or recognized equivalent to receive federal financial aid if they pass at least six credit hours that are applicable toward a degree or certificate. The funding will be utilized to support tuition, training materials, supplies, industry tours, administrative costs, indirect costs, and other expenses aligned to the purpose and intent of the grant program from the Texas Workforce Commission.



VET CENTER INITIATIVE

Funding Agency: Student Veterans of America & The Home Depot Foundation
Award: \$10,000
Funding Period: Spring 2016 - Fall 2016
Division/Department: Student Affairs and Enrollment Management – Financial Services, Testing, & Veteran Affairs
Principal Investigator (PI): Jessie Luna, Coordinator of Veteran Enrollment Services

The Vet Center Initiative Award is focused on establishing a comfortable location for veterans to get information and resources, to mentor one another, and to help other fellow veterans to succeed in completing an academic program at South Texas College.

The Student Veterans Association Chapter will be able to use the funds to purchase items at Home Depot to add furniture and equipment at the Student Veterans Center – Pecan Campus, and to purchase furniture to be used to develop a Student Veterans Center at other South Texas College campuses. These items will further expand the capacity of the Student Veterans Center to provide services and resources to veterans on campus. South Texas College has displayed a plaque provided by the National Student Veterans Association to commemorate the Vet Center Initiative awarded by the Student Veterans of America.



TEXAS PATHWAYS PROJECT

Funding Agency: Texas Success Center, Texas Association of Community Colleges with funding from the Greater Texas Foundation, Houston Endowment, the Kresge Foundation, Meadows and TG

Award: \$131,026

Funding Period: Fall 2016 – Spring 2019

Division/Department: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, and Information Services, Planning and Strategic Initiatives

Principal Investigator (PI): Kristina Wilson, Associate Dean of Curriculum and Student Learning

The Texas Pathways Project identified South Texas College to participate as one of the twelve colleges selected to be a Cadre 1 member college. Cadre 1 Colleges will collaborate with the Texas Success Center and other selected colleges in the development of a model for structured academic and career pathways from public k-12 to college to 4-year institutions. Overall, the Texas Pathways Project aims to transform the way that students transition from public education into community colleges and to certification or transfer into 4-year institutions leading toward meaningful careers. This project of the Texas Success Center is also designed to contribute to the state's strategic plan of increasing credentialed young Texans to 60% by 2030.

The twelve colleges selected by the Texas Success Center were identified as colleges that demonstrate serious commitment and capacity for transformational work to design and implement structured academic and career pathways to be implemented at a greater scale. In the selection process, the Texas Success Center also considered that South Texas College has strong existing partnerships with public schools and 4-year institutions in our region in determining which Colleges would be Cadre 1 Colleges.



VALLEY HONOR BAND MCALLEN GRANT PROGRAM

Funding Agency: McAllen Arts Council
Award: \$500
Funding Period: August 2016 – April 2017
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Liberal Arts and Social Sciences – Music
Principal Investigator (PI): Michael Gersten, Woodwind Instructor

The Valley Honor Band program will provide high achieving McAllen area band students the opportunity to perform in a fun and challenging environment while experiencing the rigor and quality of instruction expected at the collegiate level. This award focuses to increase the college-going rate of students across the Rio Grande Valley by providing middle and high school students with access to our facilities to engage them in attending an institution of higher education.

About forty students, selected by audition and teacher recommendation, will participate in rehearsals and master classes to work closely with South Texas College music faculty. Participants will also have the opportunity to speak with current South Texas College students and faculty to find out more about life as a college music major and career opportunities in the music field.



KENEDY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

Funding Agency: Kenedy Memorial Foundation
Award: \$15,000
Funding Period: Fall 2016 – Spring 2017
Division/Department: Academic Affairs/Business and Technology
Principal Investigator (PI): Mario Reyna, Dean of Business and Technology

The Kenedy Memorial Foundation Initiative provides funding for tuition assistance to students with financial need in the form of scholarships. Funding facilitates completion of the Associates of Applied Science Degree programs in technical fields for students enrolled at South Texas College. Through this award to South Texas College, the Kenedy Memorial Foundation helps many students to be able to continue their academic program through the scholarships that they receive.



Special thanks to all who contribute toward the continued success of South Texas College. Our collective efforts to secure external funds through grants expands the capacity of the College to advance prosperity in the communities we serve.

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For more information, please visit our webpage:
<http://admin.southtexascollege.edu/grants/>

Statement of Equal Education and Equal Employment Opportunity

South Texas College is an equal education and equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. As an equal education institution and equal opportunity employer, the College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. Discrimination is prohibited and the College will comply with all applicable College policies, and state and federal legislation. This policy extends to individuals seeking employment with and admission to the College.