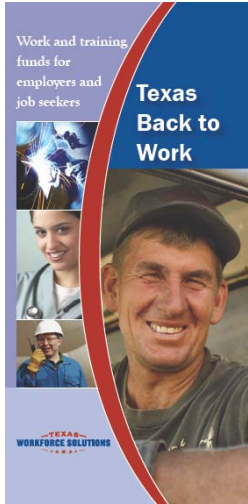


HOT HOT HOT – RED HOT
Keeping Tarrant County Working
May 12, 2010 Workforce Development Board Meeting

We Need Your Help

Texas Back to Work



We are aggressively recruiting employers to participate in the statewide Texas Back to Work initiative, providing a \$2000 employee retention bonus to private sector companies for certain new hires. This initiative is a great resource for any business needing to hire new employees and an incentive to employers not to delay hiring activities. Targeted hires are unemployment claimants in need of employment as quickly as possible. These are claimants that were making less than \$15 at their last job and that have a dependent child 24 years or younger.

We need your help for Tarrant County businesses to get their fair share of these bonus dollars, and for Tarrant County citizens to get back to work as soon as possible. Please refer any businesses that are or are considering hiring new employees to Amber Gosser, Business Services Director at 817-804-4255 or amber.gosser@twc.state.tx.us (or forward the business name and contact information to Amber yourself and we will contact them directly). We can check to see if any recent hires or candidates are qualified and/or refer qualified applicants to the business.

In addition to benefiting the employers and the targeted unemployment claimants, employer participation in Texas Back to Work, provides the in-kind match required to draw down the funding for the new TANF Summer Youth Program described later in this report.

Texas Back to Work Elevator Speech:

If you are considering expanding your workforce, and additional revenues would allow you to take action now, call Amber Gosser to receive screened referrals that qualify your company to receive a \$2,000 retention bonus after 4 months. The bonus is available for each of up to 5 new hires.

If you are about to hire or have hired anyone in the last week, please contact Amber Gosser to see if the individual hired qualifies your company to receive a \$2,000 retention bonus after 4 months of employment.

If the employee doesn't work out, the company will still receive a share of the \$2,000 for each full month employed.

More information can be found on our website, www.workforcesolutions.net

Adult Internships

We are also aggressively recruiting employers to participate in the new Internship program designed by your own Workforce Improvement Committee. Interns are current customers of our Workforce Center System, and therefore, unlike in Texas Back to Work, employer identification and referral of potential interns is not possible. However, we have over 500 customers (entry level through degreed professionals) actively seeking work that can be screened for employer specifications and referred for consideration. In addition, the internship program is not limited to private sector employers, and can be an efficient solution for public and non-profit employers to "try out" potential employees.

Internships provide a great many benefits to both the interns and the sponsoring employers, and can be the beginning of successful career matches. Interns will be paid the going rate for the position of training minus \$1/hour or minimum wage, whichever is higher. While sponsoring an intern, all wages, fringe, and Worker's Compensation insurance are paid by Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County.

The contact person for the Internship program is Renee Parker at (817) 413-4473 or by e-mail renee.parker1@twc.state.tx.us.

The following flyer is currently being distributed by members of the Workforce Improvement Committee. If you have a list of business contacts you would be willing to forward this flyer to, please indicate on the evaluation form and we will send an electronic copy to you.



Looking for a cost effective way to grow your workforce?

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County is currently offering 8 week paid internships at no cost to employers.

These pre-screened interns will be:

- * Job Ready
- * Qualified
- * Skilled

For this and other cost saving employment options contact Renee Parker by email at: renee.parker1@twc.state.tx.us or by phone at: 817.413.4473

Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County committed to Keep Tarrant County Working!



Internship Elevator Speech:

Workforce Solutions is providing employers the opportunity to train adult interns to their company's specifications and to try out these interns for up to 8 weeks, free of charge to the employers. Wages, fringe and Workers Compensation are all covered by Workforce Solutions.

Participation in the adult internship program is a great way to assess potential new employees.

More information can be found on our website, www.workforcesolutions.net

Summer Youth Program



The Summer Youth Employment Program provides valuable work experience for 800 youth between the ages of 17-21, that can demonstrate financial need. Through this program, youth in need of critical work experience and job skills have the opportunity to complete internships with employers throughout Tarrant County. This year, youth will have the opportunity to work for up to 8-weeks in a work setting to learn work readiness skills. While working, youth will earn a paycheck and some may even have the opportunity to continue in longer-term, intensive, career development services.

Employers are needed throughout Tarrant County to provide, safe, productive work for interns with a variety of interests. Interns will be assigned to worksites from June 1 until September 17. Each intern will work for 8 weeks during that time, with September 17 being the day work ends for all interns. Each intern, however, is eligible for a permanent job at the end of their assignment.

While sponsoring an intern, all wages, fringe, and Worker's Comp insurance are paid by Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County. Jobsites simply provide a safe, stable environment, meaningful job duties, and a willingness to mentor interns during their time at the worksite.

There is no application for interested employers or youth to complete in advance. However, there will be youth orientations and employer interest sessions that must be attended to begin the process of participation. A full schedule of Youth Orientation and Employer Interest sessions will be posted on our website soon. Please refer any interested parties to the workforce solutions website, where they should click on "Youth Services" to access the Summer Youth Employment information pages.

Following are some of the Q and As from the FAQs on our website:

How do employers apply to become SYEP worksites?

Organizations that want to participate in SYEP must attend any of our employer interest sessions. At this session, you will receive more information about the program and, if interested, sign an MOU and plan your supervisor orientation. Employers will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. A full listing of employer interest sessions will be posted soon.

How does the program work for employers?

If selected, Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County (WSTC) will pay the wages of the interns, who will work at your site for up to 30 hours per week. Youth may be assigned to your site for up to 8 weeks.

Can the Worksite select the youth for their worksite?

Worksites will have the opportunity to interview intern before accepting them at the worksite. However, worksite supervisors must remember that this is a training opportunity for youth to learn work readiness skills. Some youth will be better prepared than others but most will need help developing those skills.

What is the worksite's role in the SYEP?

The SYEP worksites provide youth interns with work and supervision. Since this is first and foremost a training opportunity for the intern, the worksite will be responsible for mentoring the youth to help them develop work readiness skills.

Who is responsible for paying the interns?

Unique Staffing is the employer of record and will pay the wages and fringe costs. They will also be responsible for carrying Workman's Compensation Insurance on all interns. All new hire paperwork will be completed before the intern begins work.

Please refer any interested parties to the workforce solutions website, www.workforcesolutions.net where they should click on "Youth Services" to access the Summer Youth Employment information pages.