



Linking Education and Workforce: Spurring Economic Growth Across Texas

TRI-AGENCY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE

> **Priority 1**
Strategy 3 of 3

Priority 1

Support efficient and flexible pathways to earning degrees, certificates, and other credentials linked to high-wage, in-demand jobs.

Strategy 1.3

Expand opportunities for work-based learning experiences by:

- Accelerating the development of high-quality work-based learning experiences that provide participants with meaningful opportunities; and
- Supporting engagement by industry partners.

ACTION ITEMS

Work in consultation with regional workforce boards and economic development organizations to increase the number of employers participating in the TXWORKS paid internship program for undergraduate students and increase utilization of the program.
Assist employers in recognizing and implementing upskilling opportunities.
Expand internships, apprenticeships, and other work-based learning experiences that allow participants to earn wages and/or course credit.
Develop pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs in which the first year is completed in high school and serves primarily as an instructional year.
Match employers with successful job training programs in their industries.
Increase access to insurance and liability coverage for employers that host students under the age of 18.
Expand opportunities for students to earn industry-based certifications through participation in work-based learning.

