

Texas Workforce Press Release

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Governor Greg Abbott Addresses Veterans Education at Texas Tech University

Texas Workforce Commission partnership provides college credit for military experience

AUSTIN – Texas Governor Greg Abbott addressed the importance of veterans education and introduced an accelerated Veterans Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) through a partnership with the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) College Credit for Heroes program, which has been successful in helping military veterans secure college credit for their military experience and re-enter the workforce.

“The new Veteran Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center is the future of education, offering online access, competency-based evaluation and credit for previous education and training,” said Governor Abbott. “This accelerated 12-month degree program recognizes the value of veterans’ experience, knowledge and skills. If the rigorous training that military medics and corpsmen receive meets the standard of the U.S. Military, it should be good enough for Texas.”

Speakers also included TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar, Texas Tech University (TTU) System Chancellor Robert L. Duncan and President of TTUHSC Dr. Tedd L. Mitchell.



On Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015 Texas Governor Greg Abbott introduced an accelerated Veterans Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) through a partnership with the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) College Credit for Heroes program. Pictured from left: Texas Tech University (TTU) System Chancellor Robert L. Duncan, Governor Greg Abbott and TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar.

*Photo courtesy of Texas Tech University Health
Science Center*

The College Credit for Heroes program has grown to include a network of 42 universities and community college partners who have developed curriculum or who honor credit awards for individuals with military service. Recently added partnership programs include a first-of-its kind partnership with TTU that creates a bachelor of nursing program for participating veterans and additional programs that further expand College Credit for Heroes to locations throughout Texas.

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These collaborations will increase the number of veterans and service members who can benefit from the accelerated educational programs for in-demand occupations such as pharmacy technologist, emergency medical technician, medical assisting, dental assisting and registered nurse.

“It takes a certain type of individual to make sacrifices on behalf of this country to protect our interests and our way of life,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. “These highly-trained individuals have gained incredible skills and knowledge that align favorably with the needs of Texas employers. We are committed to making our heroes transition to the civilian world successful, and this College Credit for Heroes program is doing just that.”

The TTUHSC has developed an accelerated Veteran Bachelor of Science in Nursing (VBSN) degree in which well-qualified veterans can earn their Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree in less than one year. One unique and innovative aspect to this program is that veterans can participate in the program and receive their VBSN from locations throughout the state through online coursework and a network of participating hospitals. More information can be found on the [TTUHSC website](#).

About College Credit for Heroes

College Credit for Heroes was launched in 2011 using \$3 million in Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds. The program was authorized during the 82nd legislative session under Senate Bill 1736. Phase II of the program began in 2012 expanding to other regions of the state and continuing the development of acceleration curricula for veterans. To view the results of College Credit for Heroes Phase I & II, visit [TWC’s College Credit for Heroes](#). For more information on workforce programs available for Texas veterans, visit [TWC’s Just for Veterans](#).

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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 coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our [email updates](#).