

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rackspace, Alamo Colleges Collaborate for \$1.38 Million Job-Training Grant

AUSTIN - Rackspace is collaborating with Alamo Colleges to provide customized training for new and incumbent employees using a \$1,386,387 Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). This grant will benefit workers in the Workforce Solutions Alamo, Capital Area and Tarrant County areas. Austin Community College and Tarrant County College will provide support for some portions of the training in Austin and Grapevine.



TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs presents a \$1.38 million Skills Development Fund grant to representatives of Rackspace and Alamo Colleges. From left: Rackspace Director of Global Talent Development Richie Valadez; TWC Commissioner Hughs; and Alamo Colleges Chancellor Dr. Bruce Leslie.

Photo courtesy Alamo Colleges

“Through this Skills grant, Alamo Colleges and Rackspace are fostering collaborations that will provide training for workers from San Antonio, Austin, and Dallas.” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs. “This customized training will help meet the need for high-skilled workers and continue to keep our Texas businesses competitive.”

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The grant is providing custom training to 1,000 new and incumbent workers to provide hosting, programming and technology instruction in Linux/Apache, Windows, Cisco, Red Hat, network security and Microsoft Server.

“We have enjoyed a highly successful partnership with Rackspace in training the skilled workers they need to remain a leader in information technology,” said Alamo Colleges Chancellor Dr. Bruce Leslie. “This is the workforce training of the future, preparing workers for high-tech, high-wage jobs in growing sectors of the economy with leading local and global employers, and we are proud to be a part of this investment in the future which will benefit individuals, their families, and our local and state economies.”

Those trained will include information technology professionals, human resource and accounting personnel. Upon completion of training, the workers will have the necessary skills and training for IT jobs that offer an average hourly wage of \$37.27 and some trainees may be eligible for advanced industry certifications.

“As the leading managed cloud company, Rackspace fully understands the importance of a highly engaged, cloud savvy workforce,” said Aimee Hoyt, Rackspace senior vice president of human resources. “We are thrilled to collaborate with Alamo Colleges and see this as an exciting step forward in our effort to bridge the IT skills gap.”

This year marks 20 years of the Skills Development Fund customized training opportunities for Texas businesses and their workers. From its inception in September 1995 through 2014, the Skills Development Fund grants have created or upgraded more than 316,000 jobs throughout Texas. The grants have assisted more than 4,074 employers with customized training needs. The Legislature allocated nearly \$48.5 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2016-17 biennium. Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the [TWC website](#).

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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 www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our [email updates](#).