

TWC Youth Robotics Grants Encourage High School Students to Pursue Careers in STEM



(AUSTIN, TX) – Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) awarded \$1.4 million in grants for Youth Robotics programs that will enable more than 8,200 Texas high school students to participate in Youth Robotics competitions. This year, two applicants received grant awards — Robotics Education and Competition Foundation, Inc. and FIRST in Texas.

“The Texas Workforce Commission offers a number of programs designed to prepare the Texas workforce for high-demand occupations,” said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. “We are helping to pave the way for the next generation of Texans to find success in the Texas economy.”

The Youth Robotics Initiative encourages interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by expanding participation in robotics programs for high school students, developing new teams for

robotics education competitions, and supporting existing competitive teams. Additionally, this program removes barriers to participation for students from schools in underserved urban and rural communities. Each grantee also has teams comprised of students with disabilities.

“By supporting youth robotics, we’re not just investing in education, we’re investing in the leaders of tomorrow,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Alberto Treviño III. “This program will equip our students with the skills needed for successful careers in STEM.”

The two grants total \$1.4 million and will enable 8,280 students to participate in Youth Robotics this upcoming year. The grantees include:

Robotics Education and Competition Foundation, Inc. was awarded \$700,000 to serve 2,480 students on 170 teams—25 of which will be comprised of students with

disabilities.

Foundation For Inspiration & Recognition of Science & Technology in Texas (FIRST in Texas) received \$700,000 to serve 5,800 high school students on more than 350 teams—30 of which will be comprised of students with disabilities.

“From engineering to problem-solving, the skills students learn in youth robotics programs are exactly what Texas employers are seeking,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Joe Esparza. “These programs are more than just an introduction to the STEM field—they are a gateway to high-demand career paths and prosperity.”

Teams that advance to the State Championship for each program will have the opportunity to move on to the World Championship arena. Robotics competitions bring together the excitement of sports, science, and technology.



FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



CITY OF AUSTIN SMALL BUSINESS CONNECTION CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Palmer Events Center

More Details to Come!



SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCES



FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



Economic Development CITY OF AUSTIN

It’s time to **SAVE THE DATE** for the most anticipated event of the year - the City of Austin’s **2nd Annual Small Business Connection Conference** taking place Wednesday, Sept. 25 at the Palmer Events Center. This year’s conference, themed **“Building Business, Building Community,”** offers an unforgettable experience filled with opportunities for growth, networking, and collaboration.

The conference will feature a mix of activities designed to empower entrepreneurs, professionals, and community leaders alike. From captivating workshops and interactive panel discussions to bustling trade shows and enriching networking sessions, there’s something for everyone at this year’s event.

But that’s not all—we want to hear from you! Fill out our form below to share your thoughts and suggestions on what you’d like to see at the conference. Your input will help us tailor the conference agenda to better serve your needs and interests; plus, you’ll be among the first to know when registration officially opens.

We can’t wait to welcome you to the 2nd Annual Small Business Connection Conference - where business meets community, and opportunities abound!

Contact FinancialServices@austintexas.gov for more details on how to sign-up online

Oct. 7 - Last day to register to vote



OUR FUTURE 35

Austin’s Cap and Stitch Project

ALL ARE WELCOME

The City of Austin invites you to an Open House to see updated concepts of green spaces and facilities on caps over I-35 in central Austin.

Saturday, September 28
10:00am - 2:00pm

Canopy Austin
916 Springdale Rd.



The community-driven concepts will be presented to the City Council with funding options **this fall.**

For more details visit www.OurFuture35.com