



Coding Training Grant Program

Overview

This coding training initiative came about as a result of a Memorandum of Understanding between Austin Coding Academy, South Plains College (SPC), Lubbock Economic Development Alliance (LEDA), Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University Technology Division and eLearning and Academic Partnership Area. This group is actively collaborating to establish the Lubbock Coding Academy, for which the goal is to provide a pipeline of highly-skilled junior developers to South Plains employers.

In order to tailor training programs to various skill and experience levels, most coding academy training entities break their curriculum down into different modules that offer different skill levels and code languages. Therefore, beginner coders may choose to complete all the different modules, but coders with some experience may pick and choose the modules for which will strengthen their skills in new languages.

This is a matching grant for coding training that is only available to employers. LEDA is offering workforce training grants to employers to assist in offsetting the cost of employee tuition. LEDA will reimburse an employer 50% of the tuition cost, up to \$1,000, for each employee who successfully completes each training module. There is no maximum on the number of employees an employer can send to the training and the grants will be available until the budgeted funds are depleted. The maximum amount LEDA will pay for coding training for any one employee is \$4,000.00.

Training Grant Eligibility

LEDA will provide grants to employers to offset training expenses related to employees successfully completing a local coding academy training with the following eligibility:

- An applicant must be a valid employer located in Lubbock County, or the 15-County South Plains Workforce Development area. The South Plains Workforce Development area consists of 15 counties: Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry and Yoakum counties.
- Applicant must be eligible to conduct business in the State of Texas.
- Applicant must be current on all payments to the Texas State Comptroller.
- Applicant is not eligible for grant program funding if delinquent in property taxes according to Lubbock Central Appraisal District (LCAD) records and other taxing districts as applicable.
- All grants are subject to LEDA Board approval.
- A LEDA training grant application must be made prior to the first class of each module.
- The coding training entity must have licensure with the Texas Workforce Commission, or applicable regulating body.

Training Grant Details

- LEDA disbursements are characterized as "reimbursable grants". Tuition must be paid by the employer up front and proof of this full tuition payment is required for reimbursement.
- An employer applicant is eligible to receive a training grant per module per employee trained.
- Training expenses eligible for reimbursement must relate to training provided by coding training entities with operations in Lubbock and will be paid upon documented successful completion of a coding module(s).
- LEDA will provide reimbursement grants up to 50% of the tuition cost for each module the employee completes, up to \$1,000 per module. (\$4,000.00 maximum per employee)
- Total allocated grant fund for FY 2018-19 (Oct. 2018 thru Sep. 2019) is \$150,000.00.