

# The Benefits

Targeting the best job opportunities and related training benefits the people of the Rio Grande Valley.

- ★ Schools can prepare students for local jobs that are in demand.
- ★ Students can pursue quality careers locally.
- ★ Businesses can hire skilled employees.
- ★ Economic Development Corporations can promote the local labor pool.

To fulfill its mission of bringing business and education together for increased cooperation, Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., annually identifies a list of targeted occupations.

Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., provides additional labor market information upon request, including a Labor Market Information Report.



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## MISSION STATEMENT

Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., is a public/private collaborative partnership whose mission is to form working regional and state partnerships that leverage regional resources to facilitate college-and-career-focused learning opportunities for students stressing practical problem-solving and critical thinking to achieve a higher level of competence in the workforce.

## STATEMENT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity sponsored by Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

## STATEMENT OF FUNDING

Tech Prep programs are funded in part by grants from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Harlingen Economic Development Corporation; in part by fee-for-service contracts with Los Fresnos CISD, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD, and Texas State Technical College Harlingen; and in part by contributions of supporters from businesses, public schools, and institutions of higher education.

# The Skills

Employers are looking for people who...

- ★ Identify, organize, plan and allocate resources
- ★ Work well with others
- ★ Acquire, organize, maintain and evaluate information
- ★ Understand complex inter-relationships
- ★ Work with a variety of equipment and technologies, especially computers

## Basic Skills

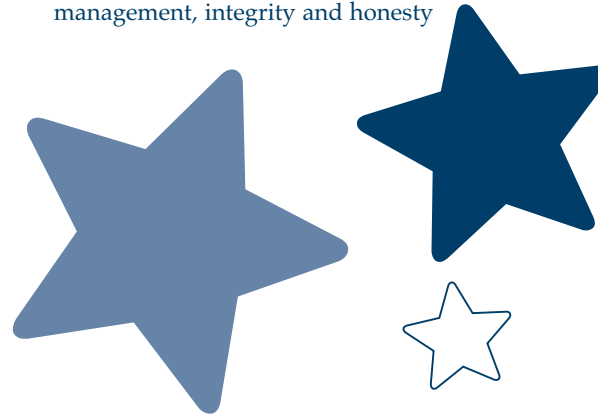
Read, write, perform arithmetic and mathematical operations, listen and speak

## Thinking Skills

Think creatively, make decisions, solve problems, visualize, know how to learn and reason

## Personal Qualities

Display responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity and honesty



The targeted occupations list in this brochure represents the "best jobs" in the Rio Grande Valley at this time. Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc., has identified these "best jobs" with the input of Workforce Solutions Cameron, WorkFORCE Solutions, the Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement (VIDA), chambers of commerce and economic development organizations. These jobs and the industries they represent are most likely to lead the Rio Grande Valley region in the development of a world-class, globally competitive economy.



# Reach for the Stars...

It shouldn't be hard to find good work while keeping your feet on the ground...



# Reach for the Stars 2011 Targeted Occupations



OCCUPATION	EDUCATION/ TRAINING	AVERAGE HOURLY WAGES	
		Cameron	Hidalgo/ Starr/Willacy
Accountants and Auditors	4 yrs	\$27.00	\$24.00
Admin Support Clerks— Various Types (esp. in Hospitality Ind.)	HS	\$11.00	\$9.00
Architects	4 yrs	\$24.00	\$29.00
Automotive Body and Related Repairers	2 yrs or HS+OJT	\$14.00	\$15.00
Automotive Service Technicians / Mechanics / Related Specialties	2 yrs	\$15.00	\$18.00
Biomedical Engineering Technicians	2 yrs	\$18.00	\$18.00
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	2 yrs	\$34.00	\$34.00
Carpenters	Long-term OJT	\$12.00	\$12.00
Chefs and Head Cooks	2 yrs	\$14.00	\$14.00
Chemical and Environmental Technicians	2 yrs	\$20.00	\$20.00
Chemists <sup>1</sup>	4 yrs	\$32.00	\$25.00
Computer Programmer	2 yrs or 4 yrs	\$21.00	\$25.00
Computer Support Specialists	2 yrs	\$14.00	\$16.00
Computer Systems Analysts	4 yrs	\$23.00	\$23.00
Construction, Cost Estimators	2 yrs	\$17.00	\$23.00
Construction Managers & Superintendents	2 yrs-4 yrs	\$18.00	\$23.50
Correctional Officers, Jailers	HS + OJT	\$15.00	\$14.00
Counselors—School/Substance Abuse/ Behavioral/Mental Health	Master's degree	\$25.00	\$25.00
Dental Assistants	1yr to 2 yrs	\$12.00	\$10.00
Dental Hygienists	2 yrs	\$25.00-\$30.00	\$25.00-\$30.00
Dental Lab Technicians	2 yrs	\$15.00	\$15.00
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	2 yrs	\$33.00	\$30.00
Digital Imaging Technicians/ Graphic Designers <sup>1</sup>	2 yrs	\$16.00	\$14.00
Drafters	2 yrs + OJT or App	\$16.00-\$19.00	\$25.00
Electricians	HS + OJT or App.	\$13.00	\$14.00
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	2 yrs	\$14.00	\$14.00
Engineers	4 yrs	\$34.00	\$31.00
Engineering Assistants	2 yrs	\$18.00	\$21.00
Heating, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	2 yrs or OJT	\$12.00	\$13.00

OCCUPATION	EDUCATION/ TRAINING	AVERAGE HOURLY WAGES	
		Cameron	Hidalgo/ Starr/Willacy
Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses	2 yrs - 3yrs	\$18.00	\$20.00
Machinists	2 yrs or OJT or App.	\$12.00	\$12.00
Mechatronics Technicians	2 yrs	\$12.00-\$14.00	\$10.00-\$14.00
Medical Assistants	2 yrs - 3yrs	\$12.00	\$10.00
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	2 yrs	\$13.00	\$14.00
Medical Transcriptionists	2 yrs	\$16.00	\$12.00
Medical/Clinical Laboratory Technicians	2 yrs	\$14.00	\$13.00
Occupational Therapists and OT Assistants	4 yrs+ and 2 yrs	\$20.00-\$30.00	\$20.00-\$30.00
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	2 yrs	\$19.00	\$14.00
Pharmacy Technicians	2 yrs	\$12.00	\$12.00
Physical Therapy Assistants	2 yrs	\$33.00	\$32.00
Physician Assistants	4 yrs	\$39.00-\$50.00	\$39.00-\$50.00
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamers	HS + OJT or App.	\$13.00	\$13.00
Police/Sheriff Patrol Officers	HS + OJT; 4 yrs	\$18.88	\$20.00
Radiologic Technologists/Technicians	3 yrs	\$21.00	\$26.00
Registered Nurses	2 yrs to 4 yrs	\$30.00	\$31.00
Respiratory Therapists	3 yrs	\$25.00	\$28.00
Secretaries: Executive/Administrative/ Legal/Medical	HS to 2 yrs + OJT	\$17.00	\$17.00
Social Workers	4 yrs	\$17.00-\$20.00	\$18.00
Surgical Technologists	1 yr to 2 yrs	\$18.50	\$19.00
Teacher Assistants	2 yrs	\$9.00	\$8.00
Teachers—Various Areas	4 yrs	\$24.00	\$24.00
Tool and Die Makers	2 yrs + OJT or App.	\$15.50	\$17.00
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	2 yrs	\$14.00	\$14.00
Welders/Cutters/Solderers/Brazers	1 yr to 2 yrs	\$11.00-\$20.00	\$10.00-\$20.00

<sup>1</sup>National information from Bureau of Labor Statistics, not local information.

**Targeted Occupations List uses these abbreviations:**

HS = High School diploma or GED                      OJT = on-the-job training                      APP = 4 yr Apprenticeship  
 1 yr = Postsecondary certificate                      2 yrs = Associate degree                      4 yrs = Bachelor's degree  
 4 yrs+ = Master's degree