

President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Automotive Technologies Technical Education Partnership (AT-TEP)

Grant Amount: \$837,424

Grantee: Eastfield College

Key Partners: Tarrant County College of Fort Worth, Texas; Toyota Motor Sales USA; Gulf States Toyota; 20 Dallas-Fort Worth area Toyota and Lexus dealers; Automotive Technology Advisory Committee; Workforce Investment Boards in Dallas, Fort Worth, and East Texas

Leveraged Amount: \$2,770,705, primarily for paid internships sponsored by local auto dealers

Location of Grant Activities: Dallas, Fort Worth, TX

Challenge: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the automotive services sector will face serious labor shortages, such that 101,000 new automotive service technicians will be needed between 2002 and 2012. Programs that offer employment support services to untapped labor pools would help to ensure the success of trainees who are encumbered by language barriers, learning deficiencies, or the lack of employability skills.

Addressing the Challenge: Eastfield College's project will offer training that can lead to professional certification and/or an Associate's degree. In order to ensure the success of trainees and students, Eastfield will develop support services in English language training, English composition, and internship experiences. With support from Toyota's Technical Education Network (T-TEN), participants will have an excellent opportunity to successfully complete rigorous training at a manufacturer's postsecondary program, and they may qualify to become Master Technicians later with Toyota or another manufacturer.

Projected Outcomes:

- The industry will benefit by training and supporting approximately 100 individuals (30 incumbent workers and 70 new students).
- Ninety percent of participants will have earned a minimum of two ASE national technician certifications upon completing the program.
- The grantee has set goals to increase the percentage of women completing the programs from 0 percent to 5 percent; the percentage of African Americans from 0 percent to 5 percent; and the percentage of Hispanics from 30 percent to 40 percent.
- For participants who complete the program, Eastfield has set a 90% placement rate within one year.
- Results/reports on the challenges and successes of this program will be shared with the industry, community colleges, and workforce communities, thereby enhancing replicability.
- The program is expected to be replicated at another Toyota T-TEN site in Texas, perhaps at Waco or Houston.