



Regional Workforce News for Business

OUR CORE VALUES

INNOVATION

We Drive Creative Solutions.

INCLUSIVITY

We Value Every Voice.

EXCELLENCE

We Aim for Exceptional Results.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We Honor Our Commitments.

CONNECTION

We are Committed to the Community We Serve.

COLLABORATION

We Achieve More Together.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Across the region, businesses are driving innovation, creating jobs, and shaping the future of our workforce.

In this issue, we highlight how Workforce Solutions partners with employers like you to meet today's challenges and plan for tomorrow's needs.

You'll also find Labor Market Information, details about Registered Apprenticeships, upcoming events, and ways to get involved in shaping the region's talent pipeline. Thank you for being part of the Gulf Coast workforce system.

Juliet Stipeche

MISSION

We help employers meet their workforce needs and individuals build careers so both can compete in the global economy.

VISION

To strengthen business and industry, drive the economic growth of our region, and create thriving, inclusive communities where everyone has opportunities to earn, learn, and prosper.



The Gulf Coast Workforce Board is the region's leader in workforce strategy, policy, and investment. Serving 13 counties in Southeast Texas, the Board works to ensure that employers have access to the skilled talent they need and individuals have the tools, training, and support to succeed in today's labor market.



We partner with businesses, educational institutions, economic development councils, chambers of commerce, and community-based groups to align training and employment services with real-world labor market demand. Through our network of 27 Workforce Solutions career offices, we deliver support to both employers and job seekers.

Whether it's helping a small business hire its next skilled tradesperson or connecting a young adult to their first apprenticeship, the Gulf Coast Workforce Board plays a central role in shaping a resilient, inclusive, and forward-looking workforce for our region.

STAY INFORMED. STAY AHEAD.

Get the latest news, tools, and updates to support your hiring, training, and workforce planning—anytime, anywhere.

Visit [WorkForceSolutionsNews.com](https://www.WorkForceSolutionsNews.com) or download the **Workforce Solutions News App**.

Employer Advisory Committees

Help Shape the Region's Workforce

We're building stronger connections between industry and workforce strategy. Join an Employer Advisory Committee to share insights on skills gaps, hiring needs, and workforce trends. Your input shapes how we invest in training and talent development. Current committees include Healthcare and Building & Construction, with more to come. Interested? Contact us to get involved.

Impact

In 2024, we supported over 30,000 employers with recruitment assistance, workforce planning, customized training resources, and strategies to retain and grow their teams.

Integrated Employer Support

One-Stop Help for Hiring, Training, and Retention

Need to hire quickly? Want help training your team or reaching new talent? Our 27 Workforce Solutions offices provide coordinated, in-person and virtual services for employers across the region. Whether you're a small business or a major employer, we're here to help you plan, grow, and succeed.



Hire Gulf Coast Youth: A Simple, Cost Effective Way to Build Your Team

Looking for motivated, work-ready talent? Hire Gulf Coast Youth (HGCY) connects employers with young adults aged 16–24 for summer jobs, internships, and entry-level roles. Whether you need extra hands or want to invest in your future workforce, HGCY makes hiring easy—with pre-screened candidates, subsidized wages, and on-the-spot hiring events.

Why Employers Participate

Fill Immediate Needs – Hire quickly with support from Workforce Solutions

Cut Costs – Many roles are eligible for wage subsidies

Train and Grow Talent – Mentor the next generation in your industry

Give Back – Help young people gain experience and build careers

Download the Employer Toolkit

[Download the PDF here.](#)

Audience: Employers interested in hiring youth

What's inside: A practical guide to engaging young talent, with step-by-step support and program benefits

Flexible Options for Hiring

Summer Jobs & Internships (8–12 weeks, \$10/hr and up)

On-the-Spot Hiring Events at Workforce Solutions offices

Year-Round Hiring support for long-term roles

Help with Job Descriptions, Interviews & Payroll Logistics

Get Started Today

Visit Workforce Solutions HGCY or contact your local Workforce Solutions office.



Tecnofil USA Expands in Humble

Tecnofil USA is making a major investment in Humble, Texas, committing approximately \$22 million to develop a two-building, 155,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility at Port North 59 Industrial Park. The company has signed a 10-year lease and expects to create around 160 local jobs, boosting employment opportunities in the region and strengthening the local manufacturing sector.

tecnofil

To support the expansion, the Humble City Council approved a \$321,000 economic incentive to fund critical sanitary sewer improvements. The project is projected to generate more than \$11.5 million in economic return to the region, according to city officials.

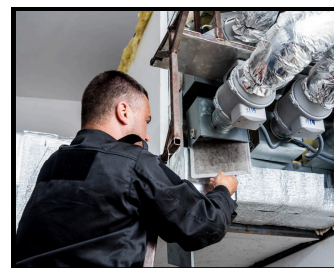
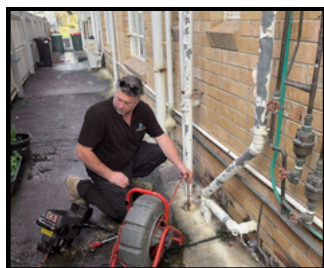
Workforce Solutions, in collaboration with the Lake Houston Chamber, is serving as the primary staffing partner, assisting Tecnofil in identifying and hiring qualified candidates for its upcoming workforce needs. Hiring is expected to begin in late summer 2025, with a variety of roles in production, operations, and support functions. This initiative aligns with the Gulf Coast Workforce Board's goal of connecting residents to high-quality, local employment opportunities that lead to long-term career growth.

Apprenticeship Helps Fill Talent Needs at Letsos Company

A recent Fox 26 story highlights how local apprenticeship programs are connecting motivated workers with high-demand skilled trades careers. After completing a free, three-week readiness course, Ivan Hernandez joined a paid pipefitter apprenticeship with Letsos Company. The Houston Gulf Coast Building and Construction Trades Council offers 13 apprenticeship tracks—including electrical, plumbing, and iron work—with starting wages of \$15–\$25/hour and benefits. Employers gain trained, committed workers ready to meet industry demand—especially as infrastructure projects drive the need for hundreds of skilled tradespeople.



Now Enrolling!



Apprenticeship Readiness Program

The **Houston Gulf Coast Building and Construction Trades Council** is now accepting applications for Cohort 17 of its Apprenticeship Readiness Program (ARP). This **free training**, featuring the nationally recognized Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3), prepares participants for U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)-registered apprenticeships in 13 high-demand trades, including electrical, plumbing, pipefitting, and HVAC and Refrigeration. Participants will complete both classroom and hands-on training, gaining essential skills needed for success in a registered apprenticeship.

Interviews start August 25 | Classes begin October 13

Classes run Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. for three weeks



Sign up today!
Scan the QR code or visit
www.ARP_MC3.com

For more information contact:
info@gcbrp.com or call 832.429.1944

Upcoming Seminar: The Strategic HR Shift

Tuesday, August, 5 2025

Guest Speaker: Latisha Newby, Esq., SHRM-SCP, PHR
CEO, Cultivate HR Consulting, LLC

[Click Here to Register](#)

Learn how today's HR leaders are elevating their roles—shifting from tactical to strategic by leading with business acumen, data, and credential-backed confidence.



Apprenticeships: A Smarter Way to Build Talent

Want to develop skilled workers from day one? Registered Apprenticeship Programs combine paid, hands-on training with related instruction tailored to your business. Whether you're hiring new talent or upskilling current staff, apprenticeships are a proven, flexible solution.

Workforce Solutions can help you:

- Design and launch a customized program
- Connect with training providers and community partners
- Access funding support and possible tax credits
- Navigate registration, compliance, and technical needs



There are apprenticeship programs for more than 300 industries, including healthcare, manufacturing, finance and energy. Workforce Solutions can help you design a program, connect with training partners, and explore funding options.

SAVE the DATE

ApprenticeshipTexas Conference

Hilton Anatole
2201 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75207
October 3-4, 2024



Apprenticeship
TEXAS



Monthly Jobs Report

We are your best source for the latest developments in Houston's regional labor market. May 2025 highlights include Houston adding 3,600 jobs in May, versus 13,000 jobs historically. The unemployment rate ticked up to 4.2% compared to 4.0% both statewide and nationally but remains low despite the weak job growth.



Quarterly Reports by County

We publish quarterly county-level employment data, including jobs, wages, and unemployment. These reports support job seekers, counselors, economic developers, agencies, and others needing detailed insights into local workforce and salary trends.



Rising Wages

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Employment Cost Index, the Houston region saw a 7.5% increase in total compensation for private industry workers between first quarter 2024 and first quarter 2025, the highest percentage increase among the 15 largest metropolitan areas for which data is published.



Economic Insights Video

Workforce Solutions Executive Director Juliet Stipeche and Economist Parker Harvey discuss how real-time data is shaping smarter investments in talent across the Gulf Coast. From healthcare to clean tech, the conversation explores how labor market insights help align training with economic goals—and why employer input is critical. It's a must-watch for businesses navigating today's workforce challenges.

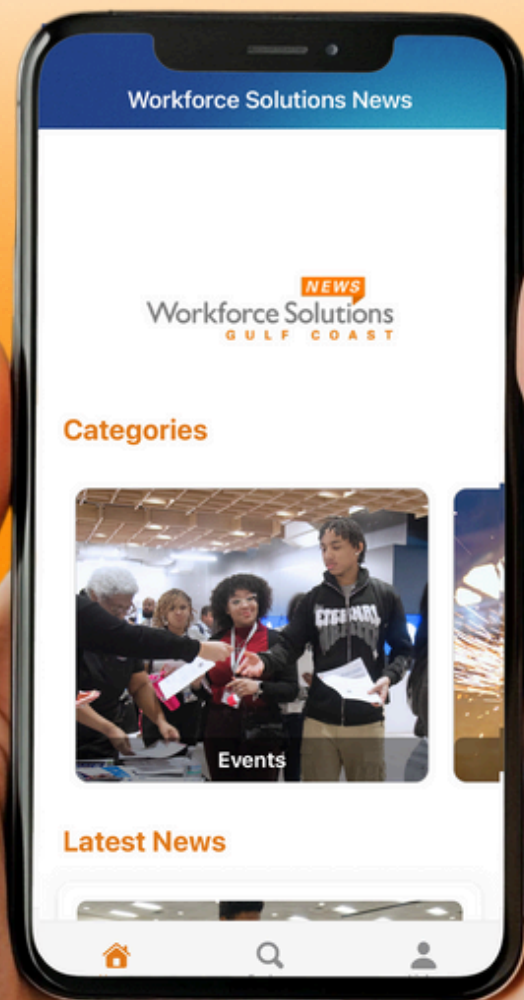
[Click Here to watch the video](#)



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