



HIGH-DEMAND JOB TRAINING GRANT

Workforce Solutions Cameron (WFSC) and
Los Fresnos Community Development Corporation

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Funding Request

Patient Care Technician & NCCER Pipefitting Level I

Total High-Demand Job Training Funding

Request: \$300,000

• Los Fresnos CDC: \$150,000

• Workforce Solutions Cameron
(WFSC): \$150,000

(maximum amount allotted per request)

The contribution will be matched on a one-to-one basis

Project Summary

This initiative brings together **Workforce Solutions Cameron** and **Los Fresnos Community Development Corporation** as collaborative partners to advance regional workforce development, with **Texas Southmost College (TSC)** serving as the training provider delivering industry-aligned instruction and recognized credentials.

Program Focus: High-Demand Occupation – NCCER Pipefitting Level I & Patient Care Technician

- Establish a hands-on, industry-aligned Patient Care Technician & NCCER Pipefitting Level I programs.
- Targeting Los Fresnos and Cameron County residents seeking to upskill or reskill.

Program Summary

Patient Care Technician Program

- Launch **3 cohorts, 13 students each**
- Address local healthcare workforce needs
- Partner with **Spanish Meadows and South Texas Rehabilitation Hospital** for clinical training.
- Funding covers:
 - Tuition to cover instruction and consumables
 - Certification costs
 - Clinical site coordination for real-world experience

NCCER Pipefitting Level I

- Train **3 cohorts, 16 students each**
- Partner with **Bechtel, Kiewit and Allied Fire Protection** for employment opportunities.
- Funding covers:
 - Tuition to cover instruction and consumables
 - Certification costs

Ensuring Industry-Recognized Certifications

Patient Care Technician (352 hours)

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification

- American Heart Association

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Certification

- Texas Unified Licensure Information Portal (TULIP)

Electrocardiogram (EKG) Certification

- The National Healthcareer Association (NHA)

Patient Care Technician (PCT) Certification

- The National Healthcareer Association (NHA)

NCCER Pipefitting Level I (160 hours)

- NCCER Core Certification
- NCCER Pipefitting Level I Certification
- OSHA 10 Certification

*The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER)

Why This Project Matters



- Rising demand for skilled Patient Care Technicians & Pipefitters supported by Workforce Solutions Cameron (WFSC).
- Economic barriers limit access to non-credit training opportunities.
- Strengthens long-term economic growth through a job-ready workforce.

Trainee Focus & Program Impact

- **Who We Serve**

- Unemployed individuals
- Economically disadvantaged individuals
- Existing employees needing to upskill

- **Key Barrier**

- Limited access to workforce training due to financial constraints

- **Our Impact**

- Removes training access barriers
- Builds a job-ready, local workforce
- Delivers credentials & real-world skills for high-demand jobs

- **Benefit to Los Fresnos**

- Hands-on learning aligned with employer needs
- Graduates boost local economic growth immediately



Patient Care Technician: Projected Growth & Wages

Employment Growth by 2032 (*Texas Workforce Commission*):

- **Texas Statewide:** 16% increase
- **Lower Rio Grande Valley:** 21% increase

Wages – Texas Overview:

Statewide Salary Range:

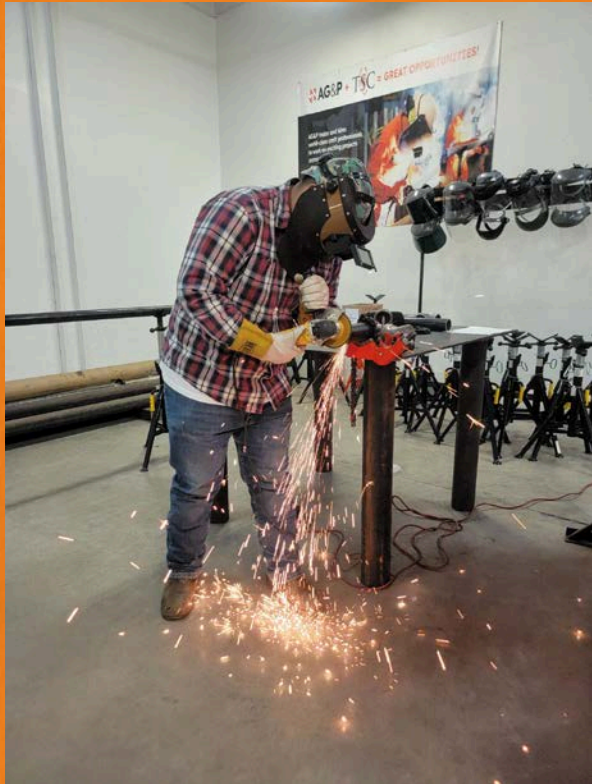
Experience Level	Hourly Wage	Annual Salary
Entry-Level	\$14–\$16/hr	\$29,120 – \$33,280
Mid-Level	\$24–\$26/hr	\$49,920 – \$54,080
Experienced	\$33–\$37/hr	\$68,640 – \$76,960

Hourly Wages:

Cameron County Area Average: \$33,530 annually
\$16.12/hour on average



Pipefitting: Projected Growth & Wages



Employment Growth by 2032 (*Texas Workforce Commission*):

- **Texas Statewide:** 13% increase
- **Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV):** Unfortunately, there are no publicly available projections specific to Pipefitting. However, the LRGV is positioned for significant Pipefitter employment driven by the Rio Grande LNG major infrastructure projects at the Port of Brownsville, infrastructure development, industrial expansion and skilled labor shortage

Wages – Texas Overview:

Statewide Salary Range:

Experience Level	Hourly Wage	Annual Salary
Entry-Level	\$18–\$25/hr	\$38,000–\$52,000
Mid-Level	\$26–\$32/hr	\$54,000–\$67,000
Experienced	\$33–\$40/hr	\$69,000–\$83,000

Hourly Wages:

Cameron County Area Average: \$51,168 annually

\$24.60/hour on average, with potential for overtime earnings.

Project Budget Summary

Description and Tuition Cost		Program Cost	
		Los Fresnos CDC	Workforce Solutions Cameron
Education and Training for Patient Care Technician	Patient Care Technician (40) \$4,500	\$2,250 x 40 Total:\$90,000	\$2,250 x 40 Total:\$90,000
Education and Training for NCCER Pipefitting Level I	NCCER Pipefitting (48) \$2,500	\$1,250 x 48 Total:\$60,000	\$1,250 x 48 Total:\$60,000
Equipment		\$0	\$0
Los Fresnos CDC and Workforce Solutions Cameron establish a matching fund to train: 88 students		\$150,000	\$150,000

Return on Investment

	Patient Care Technician	Pipefitting
We propose that LFCDC establish a training tuition fund for training Los Fresnos Citizens	\$150,000	
Workforce Solution Cameron tuition fund		\$150,000
Average Annual Salary	\$33,530 (\$16.12/hourly rate)	\$51,168 (\$24.60/hourly rate)
Number of trainees	40	48
Total Annual ROI (AAS x Trainees)	\$1,341,200	\$2,456,064
40% Income contribution in community development	\$536,480	\$982,425

Project Timeline

Receive Grant: January 2026

Recruitment of Candidates: January 2026

PCT First Cohort Training: February-May 2026

PCT Second Cohort Training: May-September 2026

PCT Third Cohort Training: September-December 2026

NCCER Pipefitting Level I - First Cohort Training: February-April 2026

NCCER Pipefitting Level I - Second Cohort Training: April-June 2026

NCCER Pipefitting Level I- Third Cohort Training: June-August 2026