

Advance Together – Apply by October 17, 2024

Advance Together is a **multiyear grant and technical assistance opportunity** for community and regional cross-sector partnerships that are working to improve education and employment outcomes for underserved people and places in Texas.

Now entering its second round, the initiative is led by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas with partner organizations. Our ultimate goal is to see more Texans connected to quality jobs.

During fall 2024, the independent Advance Together steering committee will review applications and select grantees to participate in the **2025–27 round** of the initiative. *The Dallas Fed does not provide funding for grants or participate in the selection of grantees.*

Program overview

Selected partnerships are expected to use the Advance Together grant awards and technical assistance to broaden and deepen existing work in their community to achieve their long-term workforce and education goals. Advance Together provides:

- **Flexible funding** through philanthropic partners:
 - Total of \$300,000 in grants over three years (\$100,000 annually)
 - Possibility of an additional \$50,000–\$75,000 sustainability grant
- **Customized technical assistance, a peer learning network and leadership development** to help grantees strengthen their partnerships and increase their impact. Our technical assistance focuses on critical areas:
 - Systems thinking and change
 - Collaborative and adaptive leadership
 - Authentic community engagement
 - Data-driven decision making
 - Promising practices and trends in the workforce and education fields

Eligibility requirements

This opportunity is for community or regional partnerships that meet the following criteria:

Location

- The lead organization is based in Texas, and the majority of the partnership's service area is in Texas.

Target population

- A majority of the population served by the collaborative effort is lower-income: The median household income is less than the Texas state median (\$72,284).

Focus

- The effort focuses on the education-to-workforce transition.
- Preference is given to partnerships that focus on increasing the number of people connected to quality, well-paying jobs in the region by targeting one or both of the following key pathways. (*Examples: Career and technical education, work-based learning, job placement*)
 - High school to post-secondary education
 - High school or post-secondary education to careers

Partnership composition

- Partners in the effort represent at least two of three sectors. (*Selected partnerships are expected to expand to include all three.*)
 - Public sector (*Examples: School districts, community colleges, public universities, workforce development boards, government agencies*)
 - Private sector (*Examples: Employers, businesses, chambers*)
 - Nonprofit sector (*Example: Service providers*)

Partnership maturity

- At a minimum, the partnership is already established, has partners engaged and has identified a shared long-term goal.

Capacity and resources

- The partnership should have capacity and resources to leverage the opportunity:
 - Solid fiscal and administrative track record.
 - Dedicated full-time staff member(s) or a consultant with earned trust to coordinate the efforts and accountability of the partners.
 - Ability to secure a local funding match of 20 percent (\$60,000), with at least half the amount being a cash match. (The balance can be in-kind.)

Grant timeline

Selection process (2024)	
Oct. 3, 2024	Deadline to request an application. Email: Molly Hubbert Doyle ✉
Oct. 17, 2024	Deadline to submit application
December 2024	Award notification/announcement
Implementation phase for all grantees (2025–27)	
January 2025	Phase begins: First grant disbursement of \$100,000 per partnership
Ongoing through 2027	Customized technical assistance and peer learning network
January 2026	Second grant disbursement of \$100,000 per partnership
January 2027	Final grant disbursement of \$100,000 per partnership
Fall 2027	Opportunity to apply for 2028 sustainability phase
December 2027	Phase concludes
Sustainability phase for grantees selected to continue (2028)	
January 2028	One-time grant disbursement of \$50,000–\$75,000
Ongoing through June 2028 (tentative date)	Customized technical assistance and peer learning network to support participants in reviewing and renewing their work for the next 3–5 years

For more information

Find Advance Together information online: dallasfed.org/cd/at

For questions or to request an application, contact [Molly Hubbert Doyle](#) ✉