

**Economic Development Grants,
Resources, and Webinars Newsletter**
5/25/2021

Upcoming Events

**USDA Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural
Communities and Households**

Applications are ongoing

[Click Here!](#) To apply.

Leadership Central Texas 2021

Applications due June 1, 2021

[Click Here!](#) To apply.

Rural Internship Program 2021

Applications due June 1, 2021

[Click Here!](#) To apply.

**Texas 2021: Leading Sustainable Transformations
in our Communities Virtual Conference**

June 29-July 1, 2021

Registration Fee: \$99

[Click Here!](#) To register.

Texas Mainstreet Designation

Applications due July 30, 2021

[Click Here!](#) To apply.

Funding Opportunities

Empowering Rural Leaders

The Center on Rural Innovation (CORI) is offering fully-funded Rural Innovation Initiative participation for four communities committed to building inclusive digital economies that support and serve their local BIPOC populations. CORI works with communities to develop and execute on digital economy strategies that support local tech job creation and tech-based entrepreneurship.

[Click Here!](#) To learn more and apply.

The Texas Internship Challenge, is a partnership among the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Texas Education Agency (TEA) and The Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), who challenge employers to offer paid internships and make it easy for students to search and apply for them. [Click Here!](#) To learn more.

Do You Connect, Texas students for success with trade schools and businesses? Here are few examples of what's available:

☑ Apprenticeships

☑ Free training resources

☑ Pathways to filling high-demand careers & positions

Other Resources

**Governor Abbott Announces End to Federal Pandemic-
Related Unemployment Benefits**

Governor Greg Abbott informed the U.S. Department of Labor that Texas will opt out of further federal unemployment compensation related to the COVID-19 pandemic, effective June 26, 2021. This includes the \$300 weekly unemployment supplement from the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation program. [Click Here!](#) To read more.

TWC Launches Restaurant Initiative

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) in partnership with the Texas Restaurant Association (TRA) is launching a Restaurant Recovery Initiative to assist Texas restaurants in developing new strategies to operate safely, leverage new technologies and maximize profits in the modern era. The Restaurant Recovery Initiative is built around a series of training videos in English and Spanish that will share best practices to assist employers in adapting jobs to contactless operations and new service trends. [Click Here!](#) To learn more.