

TEXAS

WIDE OPEN FOR BUSINESS™

www.TexasWideOpenForBusiness.com



The Texas Industry Cluster Initiative

In 2004, Texas introduced a comprehensive job-creation effort to encourage and enable growth opportunities for six key industries. The State of Texas presents unique advantages in these fields, including the potential for support from the Texas Emerging Technology Fund and Texas Enterprise Fund.

- ★ Advanced Technologies and Manufacturing
- ★ Petroleum Refining and Chemical Products
- ★ Aerospace and Defense
- ★ Biotechnology and Life Sciences
- ★ Information and Computer Technology
- ★ Energy

Doing Business in Texas

Relocating to or expanding in Texas means adding a competitive advantage.

Under Governor Rick Perry's leadership, the business climate in Texas is consistently ranked among the best in the United States.

Texas is logistics friendly with its top-notch roads, airports, rail system, and ports. The state has the second largest civilian workforce in the nation with an abundance of highly skilled workers. And with its rich cultural heritage, excellent schools and beautiful landscapes, the Lone Star State offers a wonderful quality of life.

Need more reasons?

- ★ No. 1 exporting state in the nation
- ★ Only state with its own power grid
- ★ Proximity to strategic markets including Mexico and Latin America
- ★ Recently enacted tort reform
- ★ No state tax on goods in transit or personal income tax
- ★ Competitive financial resources and incentives

For these reasons and more, Texas boasts a business climate that's second to none. That's why **Texas is Wide Open for BusinessSM**.

Millions of Dollars Awarded by Texas Emerging Technology Fund

The Texas Emerging Technology Fund (ETF) is designed to create jobs and grow Texas' economy over the long term by expediting the development and commercialization of new technologies, and attracting and creating jobs in technology fields.

The ETF focuses on three investment areas: increasing research collaboration through new Regional Centers of Innovation and Commercialization; matching research grants funds; and attracting more top-notch research talent. The ETF has awarded millions of dollars to emerging technology companies for commercialization; universities and consortiums to accelerate commercialization; attract globally recognized top-talent to Texas universities, and leverage regional technological expertise to address national challenges. Visit www.emergingtechfund.com for more information.

Texas Enterprise Fund Awards Surpass \$300 Million

The Texas Legislature established the Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF) to provide financial resources to help strengthen the state's economy. Since its inception, more than \$300 million has been awarded through the TEF. These grants will result in more than \$15 billion in capital investments in the state and will create more than 40,000 jobs. Visit www.texaswideopenforbusiness.com for more information.

Expansion and Relocation Experts are Recognizing Texas

Texas won the Silver Shovel award in the over 10 million population category. The shovel awards are based on information about 10 of the top job-creating and investment projects occurring in 2006. (*Area Development*, June/July 2007)

Texas ranked No. 1 for the number of firms on the 2007 FORTUNE 1,000 list, with 111 companies. (*FORTUNE*, May 2007)

The Lone Star State is home to 56 FORTUNE 500 companies – ranking second in the nation. (*FORTUNE*, May 2007)

Texas had more new corporate facilities and expansions than any other state from 2004 to 2006. The Lone Star State had 1,873 total projects during that two-year period. (*Site Selection*, March 2007)

Texas was lauded with a 2007 Corporate Investment and Community Impact Award for the capital investment and jobs created from the location of Samsung Electronics to its capital city, Austin. (*Trade & Industry Development*, March/April 2007)

Texas earned the coveted Governor's Cup for closing the highest number of announced job creation deals in the nation with back-to-back wins in 2004 and 2005, and took second place in 2006. (*Site Selection*, March 2007)

The nation's leading executives rank Texas as the best state in which to do business, applauding the state for controlling taxes and spending as well as for its positive regulatory burden, quality of life and infrastructure. (*Chief Executive Magazine*, February 2007)

Texas is the second leading state in 2007 for America's fastest-growing small public companies. (*FORTUNE Small Business*, February 2007)

Expansion Management Magazine named five Texas metro areas to its annual "America's 50 Hottest Cities" list for company locations and expansions. The five metro areas are: Austin-Round Rock; Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington; Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land; Longview; and San Antonio. (*Expansion Management Magazine*, January/February 2007)



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The Lone Star State Advantage

- ★ Texas has the second largest civilian workforce in the nation with 11.3 million workers.
- ★ Texas shares more than 1,250 miles of border with Mexico, making the state a major gateway to trade with Latin America. An estimated 70 percent of the United States' commerce with Mexico travels through Texas.
- ★ For the past five years, the Lone Star State has exported more goods and services than any other state in the nation.

Don't Like High Taxes? Come to Texas!

- ★ Texas has one of the lowest tax burdens in the U.S. ranking 49th nationally by total tax per capita in 2005.
- ★ No personal income tax.
- ★ No state tax on goods in transit.

Power to Spare


- ★ Texas is the only state with its own power grid. Our state boasts one of the most robust, well-functioning electric markets in the world, and has ambitious energy grid expansion plans to keep up with the state's projected growth.
- ★ Texas currently leads the nation in renewable resources and is ranked first in production of wind power.

Reliable Transportation

- ★ The new Trans-Texas Corridor – using public-private partnerships to accelerate development – will revolutionize mobility in Texas.
- ★ Fort Worth Alliance Airport is the first purely industrial airport in the Western Hemisphere.
- ★ Forty-four railroads operate on 10,354 miles of track to carry more than 335 million tons of freight each year.
- ★ El Paso is the largest metro area on the U.S./Mexican border and provides important rail and highway access to Mexico and the western states.
- ★ Texas has 13 deep-water ports with channels at least 30 feet deep, and 29 seaports line the Gulf Coast.
- ★ The Port of Houston is ranked first in the nation in foreign waterborne commerce, and ranks second in the nation and sixth in the world in total tonnage.

Quality of Life & Education

- ★ With its beautiful landscapes, warm weather, and famous hospitality, Texas remains a popular choice for people looking to relocate. The Lone Star State's beaches, rugged mountains, endless prairies, and piney woods provide a spectacular diversity of geography and wildlife. The same diversity extends to the people who call Texas home, creating a rich cultural heritage.
- ★ Few states can match the quality and diversity Texas golf courses offer. With more than 900 courses throughout the Lone Star State, Texas offers a variety of links to challenge any golfer's skills.
- ★ Texas has been labeled as one of the most affordable places to live and the second most popular state in the nation in which to retire. The cost of living composite index for most metro areas in Texas is lower than the national composite index of 100.
- ★ Texas' 143 institutions of higher education provide a highly educated work force. The Lone Star State generates the nation's second largest pool of graduate engineers and the third largest pool of graduate scientists.



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