



**Skilled Employees for Quality Employers**

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Success with Skill QUEST

# Our Mission Our Vision



To clear a path for low to moderate income adults living in Dallas, Collin, and contiguous counties to jobs paying a family **living wage** with benefits and a career path, while providing local employers with a highly skilled workforce ready to work.

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- ❖ Defining the skills required to succeed in targeted, hard-to-fill occupations with employers
- ❖ Recruiting, training and developing adults so that they are qualified and ready for employment.

# The Issues

## Access to decent paying jobs blocked by...

- ❖ Low levels of education
- ❖ Transportation issues
- ❖ High cost of childcare

## Did you know?

Only 28.3% of the working poor have a high school diploma or GED and less than 3% have an associate's degree.\*

## Skill QUEST's plan:

- ❖ **Move** unemployed and underemployed **people out of poverty** and into **middle skilled** growth sector **jobs** by developing a **skilled labor pool** in **collaboration** with **local community colleges**

\*The Dallas Morning News Editorial Board. "American Dream, Denied." American Dream Denied, Dallas Morning News, 11 July 2017, [interactives.dallasnews.com/2017/working-poor/index.html?\\_ga=2.132246094.1329681078.1499898579-933003344.1423275312](https://interactives.dallasnews.com/2017/working-poor/index.html?_ga=2.132246094.1329681078.1499898579-933003344.1423275312).

How does  
Skill QUEST  
provide a  
ladder out of  
poverty?



- ❖ **Tuition, books and fees**
- ❖ **Emergency help** with childcare, transportation, utilities or rent
- ❖ **Guidance** and support through Vision, Initiative and Perseverance meetings
- ❖ **Job placement** assistance

## Areas of Focus

### DCCCD and Collin College Programs\*

- Health Occupations
- Information Technology
- Mechanical/Repair
- Logistics Management
- Construction
- Auto Repair
- Auto Body Repair

### Skill QUEST Soft Skills Training

- ❖ Test taking techniques
- ❖ Study tips
- ❖ Conflict Resolution Skills
- ❖ Job Interviewing Skills
- ❖ Job Search
- ❖ Resume Writing
- ❖ Work place attire
- ❖ Financial literacy
- ❖ Improving credit scores

# Why choose Skill QUEST?

| Skill QUEST Program  | Other Job Training Programs  |
|--|--|
| Since 2012 serving Collin and Dallas counties  | Limited service area   |
| Skill QUEST serving – 275 in 2016 – less debt upon graduation  | Private Technical Institutes - \$60,000 a year for Associates Degree in Nursing-ADN          |
| Skill QUEST – 100 In-Training –Training can last up to 36 months while supporting 50 graduates in the process of licensing   | 20 students in Boot Camp – 8 week training. Other programs typically extend less than a year |
| Skill QUEST – Graduated: 70 in 2016<br>Earning between \$18 to \$25 per hour in middle wage jobs in high demand areas  | Earning between \$12 to \$15 per hour in entry level jobs                                    |
| Average Income at <b>the Start \$9,800</b><br>Average Income Upon <b>Completion \$48,000</b><br><i>Participants new wages lead to greater financial confidence and security.</i> | Average income at <b>start: \$25,000</b><br>Average income at <b>completion: \$30,000</b>    |
| All Skill QUEST placement retained – 6+ months: 85%; Income raised to \$48,000   | \$60,000 in debt   |

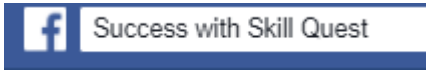
How do I  
apply to  
become a  
participant?

## Application Process for Skill QUEST





@ SkillQUESTCC



@SkillQuestED



If you are interested in investing in Skill QUEST to help participants reach the middle class and help the local economy benefit from their skills and talent,

please contact Samanda Gronstal at [directorparticipantservicessq@skillquestntx.org](mailto:directorparticipantservicessq@skillquestntx.org).

